THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 3. VICTORIA, V. I., TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1862. NO. 16.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

IS PUBLISHED

EVERY MORNING,

(Sundays Excepted,)

AT VICTORIA, V. I.

TERMS:

Per Annum, in advance, by Mail, - - - - - - - - $10 00
For Six Months, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 6 00
Per Week, payable to the Carrier, - - - - - - - - 25
Single Copies, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 10

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THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

Is furnished to Subscribers for $6 a year; $4 for six months; $2 50 for three months; payable in advance.

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SUPPLEMENT.

A Supplement sheet containing ten columns of reading matter, accompanies this number of the BRITISH COLONIST.

Naval Contracts in Vancouver Island.

No argument is required to prove that economy in naval disbursements in Vancouver Island is as necessary as it is in England, and that it is as much the duty of the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Navy here, when requiring supplies, to ask for public competition as it is incumbent on the Admiralty in England. Neither need we cite precedents to show that British merchants and British tradesmen here are as justly entitled to the privilege of tendering to supply her Majesty's navy on this station as they are in Great Britain or other Colonies. It is self-evident that economy in the naval service and justice to our merchants and tradespeople, make it incumbent on the Commander-in-Chief of the squadron here to advertise publicly for tenders to furnish whatever supplies—whether stores, bread, beef, or vegetables that may be required; and it is just as self-evident that the tendency of giving out naval contracts without public competition is calculated to awaken suspicion and create discontent, and excite anything but the proper feeling between the inhabitants of the colony and the distinguished naval officers who may have the disposal of naval contracts. No Englishman either at Home or abroad will object to the principle of advertising for tenders for naval supplies, except in some extraordinary or pressing emergency. They feel that public competition is the best safeguard against extravagance in the public service; the best security against squandering public money by favoritism; and the surest means to promote a healthy feeling between those entrusted with making public contracts and those who are taxed directly or indirectly to supply the money to meet them. We have been induced to make these remarks in consequence of a letter which has appeared in the London *Times* of Dec. 11, 1861, headed "Pacific Station (from our own correspondent), Victoria, Vancouver Island, Oct. 26," in which reference is made to the awarding of naval contracts here last September, in the following extract:

"The other attack was compounded of the unfairness with which the Admiral, of his own sovereign will and pleasure, awarded the contracts for the supply of bread and of ship's stores (chandlery) for the squadron without first advertising for tenders, and (what excited most ire) of his indifference to the appeals made by the press for an explanation. The silent contempt with which he treated those appeals, which oscillated between the pathetic and the splenetic, was construed into a high crime and misdemeanour against the sovereignty of public opinion! One might have thought that the obscure Helots who barked so crabbedly paid a quarter of the interest of the National debt of England in taxes every year, such was their solicitude for the naval expenditure.

The charges brought against the Admiral reflect only on those who made them. In this, as in all other affairs, the persons who conduct the newspapers in Victoria are not in a position to ascertain the truth. Their *status* precludes them from learning anything which they do not see. The facts of the contracts could have been ascertained had information been asked for by any decent person in the proper quarter. Here they are:—The contract for stores was continued for six months only, under a temporary arrangement, for reasons originating at the Admiralty in London. There was nothing to advertise for. The bread contract was renewed at a reduced price to the only man who could fulfil it, who has performed naval contracts for some years with perfect satisfaction, who has secured, by "faithful performance" of all his obligations the confidence of several Admirals, and who supplies better bread at a cheaper rate than the squadron get anywhere else on the Pacific station. No one else possesses the "plant" nor the means to supply the squadron with bread. One or two men wished to get the contract, and to have the bread sent from San Francisco; and no doubt one or two more would have tendered, and would have taken the contract, but they could not fulfil it and by failure in the performance the service would have been put to an inconvenience which it was the first duty of the Admiral to guard against. He knew all this, and did not rush into his arrangements blindly, or without investigation and forecast. One of the petty officers put the case very forcibly:—"The Admiral might advertise till he was blue in the face, but his ships could not be better served with bread than they they are now" This is more expressive than elegant, but I believe the sailor's dogma contains the truth."

The object of the writer of this extract appears to have been to vindicate the conduct of Admiral Sir T. Maitland in awarding the contract for "the supply of bread and ship's stores for the squadron" from the attacks of "the local press," and to impress the British public with the idea that naval contracts have been awarded here in the best possible way; and not only that, but to impress the British public with a false idea of the facilities afforded to "any decent person" to obtain information respecting naval contracts here, by stating that "the persons who conduct the newspapers in Victoria are not in a position to ascertain the truth." We would be justified were we to use our columns to vindicate our "*status*" from the aspersions of the *Times'* correspondent, but as it is totally unnecessary here, we shall leave the imperial public to draw their own conclusions on that subject from the letters appended, which have been placed at our disposal. We shall, nevertheless, deal with the statements of the *Times'* correspondent where he refers to naval contracts, in such a way as will afford the most convincing proofs to the people of Great Britain that his statements are, in the main, not reliable.

It is necessary to a full understanding of the subject under discussion to know who wrote the letter in the *Times* of December 11, 1861. In order to supply that information, we addressed the following letter to Alfred Waddington, Esq., an ex-M. P. P. of the present Legislative Assembly:

British Colonist Office, March 7, 1862.

Dear Sir:—Will you have the kindness to inform me whether Mr. Donald Fraser has at any time acknowledged that he was the author of a letter dated at "Victoria, V. I., Oct. 26, 1861," and published in the London *Times* on December 11, 1861? Yours, &c.,

A. DE COSMOS.

A. Waddington, Esq.

In reply to the above Mr. Waddington writes us as follows:

Victoria, March 7th, 1862.

Dear Sir:—In answer to your note of this day I can only state that Mr. Fraser, whilst discussing the strictures in the *Press* on his letter of October 26th in the London *Times*, stated to me that he could show me the original, nor did he seem to make the slightest secret of his being the author.

Yours truly,

ALFRED WADDINGTON.

A. De Cosmos, Esq.

If our readers in England wish to know who Mr. Waddington is, we have permission of that gentleman to refer them to Horace Waddington, Esq., Under-Secretary of the Home Department of State, London, or to Lord Llanover. We have established one fact then in our inquiry—the author of the above extract is Mr. Donald Fraser.

The next point is to learn whether Mr. Donald Fraser was in any way connected or interested in either of the naval contracts about which he writes. Because if it can be shown that he is in any way connected with them, either as contractor or security for a contract, or security for consideration, his defence of naval contracts awarded here by Admiral Sir T. Maitland would be anything but *disinterested*. An interest in a good fat contract might be instrumental in influencing even a *Times'* correspondent in coloring matters favorably. In order that we should make no mistake on this point, as well as on some others, we addressed the following note to Messrs. Southgate & Co., the firm who hold the contract for supplying ship's stores:

British Colonist Office, March 7, 1862.

Gentlemen:—In a letter in the London *Times* of December 11, 1861, the following language is used in reference to naval contracts here:

"The contract for stores was continued for six months only under a temporary arrangement, for reasons originating at the Admirality in London."

I would be glad if you would inform me whether this extract is correct?

And further, what were the "reasons originating at the Admirality in London?"

Having been informed that E. Stamp, Esqr., and the Hon. Donald Fraser are securities for your firm for the faithful performance of your contract with the navy here, I take the liberty of asking, whether both or either of these gentlemen are your securities?

I am aware that the questions put as above may be considered as inquiring into your private business; and consequently on that ground you may think—and perhaps correctly—that it is not incumbent on you to answer them. Nevertheless, as I intend to discuss in the Colonist the question of naval contracts, I have considered it due to you that I should make those inquiries before doing so, as I have no wish to represent matters in an unfair light.

If you will supply me with the information I desire, I shall feel extremely obliged; and if today, I shall be placed under still greater obligations.

I am &c.,

A. DE COSMOS,
Editor Colonist.

Messrs. J. J. Southgate & Co.

In reply to the above letter, Mr. J. J. Southgate called at our office and stated to the writer:

1. That he did not wish to reply in writing to our note. 2. That the extract from the *Times* is correct so far as it relates to the contract for ship stores having been awarded for six months. That he *never before* heard that the contract was renewed for six months only owing to "reasons originating at the Admiralty in London." 4. That Mr. Donald Fraser *is one of his securities* to the contract to supply the navy with ship's stores. 5. That he refused to state who was the other security.

From the information thus supplied to us by Mr. J. J. Southgate there can be no doubt about Mr. Donald Fraser, the *Times'* correspondent, being connected with one of the naval contracts of which he writes in his letter of October 26th. We do not say that he is pecuniarily interested in the contract, although it has been so alleged. It is enough for our purpose to know that he is a *security*. A discerning public, with the knowledge of the facts that he is the author of the letter of October 29th, and at the same time security to a contract of which he writes, can consequently be far better able to understand what object there could be in laying incorrect statements before the British public, about the local press, the facilities for getting information from the Admiral, and the bread contract.

We now propose to rebut some of the statements in the above extract. It is there alleged that—

"The facts of the contracts could have been ascertained had the information been asked for by any decent person in the proper quarter."

This is a mere assertion. It is not supported by any proof. The public are left to draw the inference that any British Admiral would have granted the information to any decent persons, and that the real and only reason why an explanation was not given to the conductors of "the local press" was because they were not decent persons. Such is the plain inference; but it is entirely untrue, as we shall show—satisfactorily prove. In August and September of 1860, several of our merchants and trades people were anxious to contract for supplies for the navy on this station. These firms sent respectful letters to Admiral Baynes; the letters were placed in the hands of Mr. Southey] the Admiral's secretary, but they were neither acknowledged nor answered. These firms were Messrs. Janion & Green, Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co., and Messrs Monseratt & Almon. As we do not want our assertion to go abroad unsupported by proof, we refer to the following correspondence between the Editor of the Colonist and Messrs. Janion & Green:

British Colonist Office, March 6, 1862.

Gentlemen:—In the London *Times* of December 11th, 1861, I find a letter from the Vancouver Island correspondent of that journal, in which it is alleged that the naval contracts for this station had been awarded during the stay of Admiral Sir T. Maitland, last autumn, and that the local press had made attacks on him owing to not "advertising for tenders or putting contracts up to public competition."

It is also stated that "the facts of the contracts could have been ascertained had the information been asked for by any decent person."

As the tendency of the remarks of the *Times'* correspondent is to impress the British public with an incorrect idea as to the facilities afforded to merchants applying for information relative to naval contracts here, and understanding that your firm had addressed the Admiral on the subject, I would be glad if you would furnish me with copies of any correspondence between yourselves and the Commander-in-Chief of the Navy on this station upon this subject for publication.

I am respectfully, &c.,

A. DE COSMOS.

Messrs. Janion & Green.

Reply to the above.

Victoria, March 7, 1862.

Editor British Colonist:—*Sir*,—We have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date making inquiries of us whether we had any correspondence, during the last or previous year, with the Commander-in-Chief of the Navy on this station on the subject of naval contracts, and requesting, in the event of our having had such correspondence, copies of the same.

As a rule, we are averse to discussing our business matters in the columns of a newspaper, but in view of the facts stated in your letter under answer, we have no hesitation in furnishing you what you ask for.

We did address two letters to Admiral Baynes on this subject, but, much to our surprise, *we did not receive any reply to either of them, either written or verbal.* We enclose you herewith copies of them.

The reason for our asking for information from the Admiral was, that we wished to contract for the supply of sugar, which is an article of large consumption in the navy, and as we have imported and sold the great balk of raw sugars consumed in this market since March, 1859, we have, of course, special facilities for furnishing this article, and could have supplied it at from 25 to 33 per cent. lower than the present contract price.

From the above you will see that, in this instance, *we used the best means in our power to obtain information on the subject, but failing to learn anything of the matter,* and hearing it currently reported that the contract had been extended for a considerable period, *we did not renew our application in the matter to Admiral Sir Thomas Maitland* upon his arrival.

We are, sir, your obed't servants.

p. pro JANION & GREEN.
Henry Rhodes.

[COPY.]

Victoria, V. I., 27th Aug., 1860.

Sir:—We have the honor to request that you will cause us to be furnished with information upon the following points, namely: When the contract for supplying Her Majesty's ships under your command expires, and whether, on the expiration and before the entering into any new contracts, public notice for tenders will be given, and for what period the next contract will be made.

We intended last year to have sent in tenders for one or more articles had notice of the contract been given, as we have peculiar facilities for furnishing some things at a low rate, and hope this year to be enabled to do so, and for the purpose of making all necessary arrangements, have taken the liberty of applying for the above information.

We have the honor to be, sir, your obd't serv't.,

p. pro JANION & GREEN,
Henry Rhodes.

Sir R. L. Baynes, K. C. B., Commander of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific, etc., etc., Esquimalt.

[COPY.]

Victoria, V. I., Sept. 6, 1860.

Sir—On the 27th ultimo we addressed you on the subject of the contract for supplying Her Majesty's ships under your command, and requesting that you would cause us to be furnished with information upon several points connected therewith, to which letter we have not received any reply, and a copy of which we herewith enclose.

Understanding that you are about to leave Esquimalt in H. M. ship "Ganges" and the time for preparing tenders and making arrangements being necessarily short, should it be in contemplation to make a new contract before you leave, we would again respectfully ask for the information applied for by our previous letter.

We have the honor to be Your Obt. Svts.

p. pro JANION & GREEN,
Henry Rhodes.

To Sir R. L. Baynes, K. C. B., Commander of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Pacific, H. M. S. Ganges, Esquimalt.

We also addressed a letter to Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co. of the same tenor as the one above addressed to Messrs. Janion & Green, and received in reply the following:

Victoria, V. I., March 8, 1862.

A. De Cosmos, Esq.:—*Sir*,—As requested in yours of 6th inst., we hand you copies of all communications addressed by us to Admiral Baynes in 1860 in reference to tenders for supplying H. M. ships of war on this station.

Owing to our *never having received any reply* to them, *we thought that little could be gained by again applying in that way for information* on the subject.

We are, sir, yours truly,

p. pro DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO.
Chas. W. Wallace.

[COPY.]

Victoria, V. I., 27th Aug., 1860.

Sir:—It being our intention to make a tender for the supplies for the use of Her Majesty's Fleet, under your command on this station, we respectfully request to be informed at what period the existing contract expires, and whether public notice will be given before any new contract is awarded.

We have the honor to be, sir,
Your most obd't servants,

(Signed) DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO.
p. pro Chas. W. Wallace.

To Sir R. L. Baynes, K. C. B., Commanding H. M. Fleet, Pacific Station.

[COPY.]

Victoria, V. I., 7th Sept., 1860.

Sir:—We had the honor of addressing you on the 27th ult., a copy of which we beg leave to enclose, and as it is currently reported the flag-ship Ganges leaves the station early on Monday next, we would respectfully solicit a reply to the letter in question, for our future government.

We are, sir, your most obd't servants,

(Signed) DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO.
p. pro Chas. W. Wallace, Jr.

To Rear Admiral Sir T. L. Baynes, K. C. B., Commanding Her Majesty's Fleet Pacific Station.

The real secret is explained in these letters why no application was made by the Colonist to Admiral Maitland for information. Had Admiral Baynes supplied the information sought by Messrs. Janion & Green and Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co. in 1860, application would have been made to Admiral Maitland in 1861. But the mercantile community had been unfairly treated in 1860, and all parties were unwilling to be treated so again in 1861. That is the real secret—a secret which the *Times'* correspondent scrupulously avoids alluding to, though well known in the town. Why he does so, people can form their own conclusions. Yet he asserts that any decent person could get information. Are not Messrs. Janion & Green represented here by H. Rhodes, Esq., Hawaiian Consul, and in England by Messrs. R. C. Janion & Co., Liverpool—are they not decent persons? Are not Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co. represented here by C. W. Wallace, Esq., and in London by H. N. Dickson & Co., and who, in San Francisco, do the largest English business—are they not decent persons? Nothing but the insolence of one who could appropriately take a mushroom for his coat of arms would say that Admiral Maitland would give information to any decent person.

The next points are—1. "There was nothing to advertise for." 2. "The bread contract was renewed to the only man who could fulfil it." 3. "No one else had the plant nor the means to supply the squadron with bread." 4. "One or two wanted to get the bread from San Francisco." 5. "One or two would have tendered, taken the contract, but could not fulfil it." Such are the statements of one of the securities of Messrs. Southgate & Co's naval contract. Each and all can be disproved. First of all, if there was nothing to advertise for, why was there an advertisement put in the Colonist calling for tenders for supplying the navy with beef? And why was the beef contract taken from Mr. Harris and given to Messrs. Skinner & McKenzie? Tenders were called for beef, why not for stores, for bread? Mr. Southgate neverheard of "reasons originating at the Admirality in London;" yet his security did. How singular it is that the security should be better posted than the contractor. The real truth is, Admiral Maitland would have acted wisely had he advertised. So far as the bread contract is concerned—the other points—read the following correspondence; it fully and completely refutes them:

British Colonist Office, March 6, 1862.

Dear Sir:—I observe that the Vancouver Island correspondent of the London *Times*, in a letter published in that journal on December 11th, 1861, states that "charges were brought against the Admiral" by the local press for giving out the bread contract without first advertising for it. He likewise states that "there was nothing to advertise for," as "the bread contract was renewed at a reduced price to the *only man* who could fulfil it."

Being under the impression that the above statements, with some others, are incorrect, and are calculated to mislead the British public, I would be glad if you would answer the following queries:

1. Were you established in the ship bread business in this town during 1860 and 1861?

2. Had you as good or better machinery for making bread than Mr. K. McKenzie, the present contractor for supplying the navy with bread?

3. If tenders had been called for to supply the navy with bread, by the Admiral, would you have sent in a tender?

4. At what rate would you have engaged to supply the navy with bread in August or September last?

5. Would you have imported bread from San Francisco if you had got the contract?

6. Would you have given sufficient security for the faithful performance of the contract?

An early answer to the above will oblige

Yours, etc.

A. De COSMOS,
Editor "Colonist."

To Mr. Sam'l Nesbit.

Yates Street, Victoria, March 6, 1862.

Editor British Colonist:—*Sir*,—I was somewhat surprised at the contents of your note of this morning, owing to the incorrect statements in the letter in the London *Times*. It consequently affords me great pleasure to reply to your interrogatories. I will answer them in the order in which you put them.

1. I established my navy bread manufactory in Victoria in 1860, and have continued in the business to the present time.

2. My machinery for making navy bread is the latest patent, and is far better than Mr. K. McKensie's.

3. I would have sent in a tender for supplying the navy with bread, if tenders had been called for, in August or September last.

4. I would have bound myself to supply the navy with a first rate article—the best quality of bread—in August or September last for 4¾ cents per lb.

5. I would not have imported bread from San Fransisco to supply the navy, if I had got the contract.

6. I was and am prepared to give the best security in the Colony for any bread contract, either with the navy or other parties.

If there is any further information that you require, I shall be happy to furnish it.

Yours, truly,

SAMUEL NESBIT.

Colonist Office, March 6, 1862.

Dear Sir:—I observe that the Vancouver Island correspondent of the London *Times*, in a letter published in that journal on December 11th, 1861, states that "charges were brought against the Admiral by the local press for giving out the bread contract without first advertising for it." He also states that "there was nothing to advertise for" as the bread contract was renewed at a reduced price to the *only man* who could fulfil it." Aware that you are one of the correspondents who, through the Colonist, condemned the course adopted by the Admiral, I would feel obliged if you would furnish me with answers to the following questions, as it may tend to put the matter in a correct light before the British public:

1. Were you prepared at that time to supply the navy with bread?

2. At what rate?

3. What is the cost of machinery for making navy bread without the ovens?

4. How long would it take to complete a bread manufactory, including the erection of a building, ovens, &c.

5. If you had obtained the contract would you have imported the bread from San Francisco?

6. Would you have undertaken to supply bread of a first rate quality, at a lower rate than the present contractor, with security for the faithful performance of your contract?

Yours, &c.,

A. DE COSMOS.

Mr. A. Somerville.

James' Bay, Victoria, March 6, 1862.

Dear Sir:—Yours of this date has just come to hand; and in reply, I beg to answer your queries *seriatim*:

1. I was prepared to supply the navy with bread.
2. At five cents per pound.
3. The cost of machinery without ovens is $400.
4. About three weeks.
5. No; I would have bakedit here.
6. I would have undertaken to supply bread of as good a quality as that furnished by the present contractor at a lower rate, with security for the performance of the contract.

I am, sir, yours respectfully.

A. SOMERVILLE.

Mr. A. De Cosmos, Colonist Office.

The letters of Mr. Nesbit and Mr. Somerville refute entirely the assertion that the contract was given to the only man in the colony who could fulfil it. Mr. B. Derham, Johnson street, who has been in the bread business since 1858 in this town, also assures us that he had made every preparation to take the bread contract at 4½ cents per lb., whereas the rate now paid is six cents. Need more proof be asked?

Australia—Extraordinary Gold Discoveries, &c.—Australian papers to the 22d November have reached San Francisco. Letters received from Lachlan's diggings states that the ground opened up there has thoroughly satisfied the most brilliant expectations of the seekers after the precious metal, and that the field is likely to turn out to be the richest in all Australia. These diggings are in the Western district, about 80 miles from Lambing Flat, 48 from Condolin, 46 from Canowindra, 75 from Orange, and 70 from Cowra. The shares in some of the claims are valued at £2000. One hole, four feet by two, on the lead bottomed on fifty, yielded 31 oz 5 dwt, size of claim, 80 by 80; another, 22 oz, and will wash five or six ounces to the tub of four buckets. About twenty holes equally rich have been bottomed. Rich patches occur frequently, and a man took 54 ounces out of what he described as a billyful of stuff. The place has a lively appearance, as the diggers hoist a flag when they have made a good pile. A rush has set in from Lambing Flat, and diggers, including some Victorians, are arriving in thousands. By Christmas, there will, it is calculated, be no less than 20,000 people on the spot. Whilst writing the above, a telegram, just received from Orange, states that intense excitement exist at Lachlan diggings. The lead has been struck in several places, and is supposed to be three-quarters of a mile long. The yield of gold surpasses in richness the palmy days of Ballaarat. One party bottomed and divided £1,000 per man as the proceeds of a week's labor. The ground on which Curran's store stood was bottomed, and 6 pounds weight of gold taken out of a single bucket. ....Australia, like California, has been visited by terrible floods, but owing to the nature of the country and the precautions taken, the damage inflicted had been far less.......A new copper mine had been discovered near Rockhampton. The ore consists of green carbonate......Great preparations were making for the representation of Victoria at the coming World's Fair. A gilded pyramid, showing the total bulk of the gold yield of the last ten years, has been added to the Exhibition. The figure is forty feet in height, and measures ten feet at the base. The value it is intended to represent is £104.649,728 or nearly 900 tons of gold. ....It is proposed to erect a monument to the memory of Burk and Wills, the explorers.

The Difference.—From the first of February to the first of March, 1861, 635 passengers left this port on steamers for British Columbia. Fraser River was open from Alexandria to its mouth, and miners commenced work on the North Fork of the Quesnelle on the 22d of February. The trails from Lytton and Cayoosh were in tolerable traveling order during the same period, and scores of miners and animals were wending their way towards the golden land. This year the Fraser, from source to month, is blockaded with ice, hardly 50 miners have left this place for British Columbia, and from late and reliable accounts received of the weather and state of the roads, it would seem to be as much as a man's life were worth to attempt the journey to Quesnelle from either Lytton or Cayoosh before the 1st prox.

Cochin China.—Dates are to the 5th December. The French had taken possession of the island of Pulo Condore, and Buen-oah was shortly to be attacked. A French pilot had been murdered by Chinese in going down the river. The markets are quite glutted with European goods. Trade at Saignon, in consequence of the warlike operations of the French, was dead.

Lytton Wagon Road.—The time for receiving tenders for this contract has been extended from the 17th to the 31st of March. For additional particulars we refer our readers to the advertisement, which has been slightly altered.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, March 11, 1862.

Columbia River Mines.

Many parties on seeing this heading may conclude that we refer to the mines within Washington Territory and Oregon. On the contrary, we refer to the Upper Columbia—the British portion of the river—within British Columbia. It takes its rise in the Cariboo country near the source of the east Branch of Fraser River, and drains the whole western base of the Rocky Mountains down to the boundary line on the 49th parallel. We deem it important in every point of view that the attention of the public should be directed to it, and not only the attention of the public, but the attention of the British Columbian Government, in order that one or more trails may be constructed to it from Fraser and Thompson Rivers. It becomes the more important that Government should attend to this matter, as we observe that efforts are being made in Oregon to divert an immigration to the Upper Columbia *via* Portland and the overland route. The mines of the Upper Columbia are so well known there, and the advantages of a tide of immigration entering British territory by that route are so well understood that no pains will be spared to persuade the miners to take that direction, notwithstanding that the natural route, the shortest, and the most expeditious is *via* Victoria and Thompson River. Mr. J. R. Bates, a resident of Colville, in a long letter to the Portland *Times* of a late date, urges the value of the Upper Columbia mines, from which we make the following extract, which speaks for itself:

Colville has been a place of some notoriety as a mining district for some six or seven years, and I honestly believe that it has never had the credit in that respect that is justly due it. There are some two hundred men mining on the Columbia and Pend d' Oreille rivers, all of whom, when I left, were doing well. No big strikes have been made there such as have been made in the Salmon River district, but good wages are being made every day. Many men went from there to the Nez Perces mines when they were first in high repute, but soon returned, well satisfied that the Columbia mines were much the best. Recently, there has been some new discoveries made further up the Columbia, which, so far as heard from, were very rich. The party who made the last discoveries have not been heard from since they were about 300 miles above Colville; they purposed extending their researches as far up the Columbia as the head of canoe navigation, with the expectation of striking the Cariboo lead. The party sent down some gold from 300 miles above Colville, which was coarse, resembling the Cariboo gold. They reported $25 per day diggings with a rocker in many places along the river.

There is an extensive mining district on the upper Columbia which will all be taken up in a short time; there are also good mines discovered in the Coeur d'Alene mountains, and on the Courtney river, all of which will soon be worked, making a home market for produce raised in Colville and the Spokane valleys, which are not surpassed by any locality east of the Cascade mountains for agricultural purposes.

The Columbia river from Colville runs in a nearly northeasterly direction to Boat-encampment, which is as far up as boats go, and which is only about sixty miles from the waters of Fraser river.

All supplies to the upper Columbia will be taken from Wallulla to Colville by land and from there to any point on the river in boats.

British Columbia in England.

We observe in the Liverpool *Daily Post* of December 14th a communication occupying nearly two columns, from W. R. Meldrum, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Stewart, Meldrum & Co., of this city, who is now in England, which gives one of the most interesting and graphic accounts of the condition, resources and wants of these Colonies, which we have ever had the pleasure of reading in the English papers. There is a very truthful extract in the communication from our much respected townsman J. R. Stewart, Esq., touching the accounts from the mines. The whole article cannot fail to raise this Colony very high in the estimation of the British public, as well as afford the Colonial Office an insight into the necessity of subsidizing a steam line between this port and Panama. We regret that our space in this issue will not permit us to copy the article.

Death of a British Columbian Merchant.—Charles Otis Kimball, of the well-known firm of Cook & Kimball, Lytton City merchants, died at his father's residence, near Boston, Massachusetts, on the 25th of January last, aged 34 years. Mr. Kimball left here for the East in December last, intending to return after a short visit to the home of his childhood, which he had not seen for twelve years. He reached home apparently in the enjoyment of excellent health and spirits; but five days afterwards was attacked with *diptheria*, and died on the day stated. Mr. Kimball was a steady, industrious and highly successful business man, and leaves a host of friends here and in the sister Colony to mourn his untimely departure.

Cause of the Detention.—The Sierra Nevada was detained two days at San Francisco in consequence of the non-arrival till the 27th ult. of the Cortes from this place. One of the boilers of the latter vessel was burned out on the passage down, and she was ten days in reaching the Bay.

Later from the Seat of War.

Surrender of Nashville, Tenn.

INTERESTING SUMMARY.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Sierra Nevada, with passengers and mails, arrived at Esquimalt from San Francisco Thursday morning. From files received, we make the following synopsis:

STATES' NEWS IN DETAIL.

New York, Feb. 21.

The Savannah *Morning News* says that the Yankees would capture and destroy Savannah this week, and Charleston soon after.

The President's son died yesterday.

The Customhouse, banks, insurance offices, and most places of business, will be closed to-morrow, 22d, in accordance with a proclamation issued by the Mayor.

St. Louis, Feb. 21.

General Halleck to-day telegraphed Gen. McClellan that Gen. Curtis has taken Bentonville, Ark., with a considerable quantity of baggage, wagons, etc.

A released prisoner at Baltimore says that there is a strong Union sentiment at Richmond. The Union men are 3000 strong.

In the fight on Monday, at Sugar Creek, Ark., 14 of the enemy were killed and 43 wounded. 1,200 or 1,300 of our troops were bivouacking 3 miles beyond the camp.

Cairo, Feb. 22.

Officers of the gunboats who have been at Clarksville represent the Union feeling as strong and testified to in such a manner as admits of no doubt of its sincerity. The people state that they had been led to believe the Union army entirely composed of Germans and negroes, who were making it a war of abolition; now that they have seen its effect, they are anxious to take the oath of allegiance. Prominent officers say a similar feeling will soon pervade the whole State.

The telegram yesterday said that Gov. Harris had convened the Legislature, for the purpose of having the unconstitutional acts passed by them repealed. This is probably true.

Two thousand Fort Donelson rebels have asked to be sworn in to the U. S. Army.

Cleveland, Feb. 21.

The steamer North Star was burned at the wharf last night. Loss, $75,000.

Washington, Feb. 21.

Government has released a large number of political prisoners from Forts Lafayette and Warren, on their parole that they will not give aid and comfort to the enemy.

Washington, Feb. 22.

At a complimentary supper given Mr. Faulkner, formerly minister to France at Martinsburg, Va., a few days since, he declared in a speech that it was useless for the South to contend any longer, that the Southern Confederacy could not stand, and the sooner the war ceased the better for the South. The speech is said to have created intense excitement, as Mr. Faulkner exercises considerable influence in some portions of Virginia.

New York, Feb. 22.

The steamer Atlantic, from Port Royal on the 19th, arrived this morning. She brings two hundred bales of cotton.

An editorial in the Richmond *Examiner* of the 19th states that a large portion of the foreign population at Richmond were disaffected.

New York, Feb. 22.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* of to-day says it is reported that frauds in articles of clothing and military horse-trappings have been discovered, amounting to over one million of dollars.

Chicago, Feb. 24.

General Scott has been nominated Minister to Mexico.

Cumberland Gap and Russellville are in possession of the Federal troops.

Washington, Feb. 24.

Reconnoisances were made this morning from Smith's Division towards Centreville. Eleven mounted pickets were captured, from whom information was obtained.

Louisville, Feb. 23.

It is understood that the rebels proposed destroying the roads and bridges near Nashville on their retreat southward, but citizens along the road remonstrated.

Beauregard is at Nashville, sick with the typhoid fever.

Chicago, Feb. 24—P. M.

The official statement of the fight at Fort Donelson shows 321 killed, 1,054 wounded and 152 missing on the Federal side.

An expedition, composed of four gunboats and two mortar boats, from Cairo, went down to Columbus yesterday, and was met by a rebel flag of truce. A consultation took place, which lasted two hours, result not being made public.

Gen. Scott was nominated Minister Extraordinary to Mexico on Saturday, with full powers such as he exercised in the Pacific on the northwestern boundary (San Juan Island) matter. Accompanying this nomination, the projected treaty went to the Senate, the principal feature of which is substantially the assumption of the Mexican debt, the interest on which amounts to three million dollars a year. The treaty guarantees our payment of it for five years. It is thought that Gen. Scott's nomination will be confirmed by the Senate, if his functions should be limited to the pacification of the armed quarrel against Mexico, particularly at this moment, when we cannot defend the Monroe doctrine or go to her help; but it is doubtful whether the Senate will favor a scheme buying off England, France and Spain for five years.

Col. Corcoran is to be made a Brigadier as soon as he returns from the South.

Fortress Monroe, Feb. 23.

The steamer George Washington arrived this evening from James River, with three hundred released prisoners, the largest number of them belonging to the Tammany and First California Regiments, a large proportion of them captured at Ball's Bluff. There are now no Union prisoners remaining in Richmond.

Gen. McKinstry has been released from imprisonment.

Gov. Morton has appointed the Hon. Joseph A. Wright U. S. Senator for Indiana, to fill the place of Jesse D. Bright.

Cairo, Feb. 22.

Troops are congregating here, and preparations are making for a move on Columbus. The Confederates are extremely busy, either preparing for an evacuation, or, as some think, to attack us here. Seventeen steamers were lying at Columbus this morning, and a scout reports them laden with troops. The force is 30,000 strong. There are five gunboats there.

Memphis papers of the 22d just received represent the people of Tennessee feeling gloomy and depressed about the Fort Donelson matter. The publication of all news of Union triumphs is interdicted by military authorities.

The Governor of Mississippi has made a general call upon all persons capable of bearing arms to enlist under the alternative of drafting.

The Governor of Alabama calls for 12 regiments by the 4th of March for three years or the war, and threatens to resort to drafting if not filled by that time.

St. Louis, Feb. 24.

Gen. Halleck, in an order addressed to the troops engaged in the advance to Tennessee, reiterates in strong language the provisions of his third Order, and urges the Federal soldiers to show the misguided Southern people that they come to restore, not to violate the Constitution and laws. He forbids fugitive slaves being admitted within our lines. All persons not in arms are to be regarded as non-combatants—not to be molested either in person or property, unless aiding and assisting the enemy.

Fortress Monroe, February 24.

The steamer Baltimore, which left here several days ago with ammunition for Gen. Burnside's expedition, arrived yesterday. Her news is not of peculiar interest. The burning of Winton by the Federal forces is confirmed.

The greater part of Burnside's expedition was still at Roanoke Island. Gen. Williams' Brigade, at Hatteras, had received orders to proceed there.

The election ordered by the Provisional Government of North Carolina took place on Saturday, resulting, as far as returns received, in re-electing Foster to Congress. The ordinances of the Convention were also ratified.

Indianapolis, February 25.

Gen. Buckner and staff arrived here by special train from Louisville, at 1 o'clock this morning; also 300 more prisoners. Gen. Buckner is confined alone in a room in the United States Court House building. There are now here at Lafayette and Terre Haute nearly 6,000 prisoners.

Cairo, February 25.

Nashville was occupied yesterday by ten thousand troops under Gen. Buell, and the Federal flag was flying over the State House.

The Tennessee Legislature, which adjourned on Saturday week, met again yesterday.

At Memphis it is reported that commissioners had been appointed to confer with the Federal authorities at Washington to arrange terms for the transfer of her allegiance, and that Gov. Harris had offered to turn the Confederate forces over to the Union.

A gentleman who lives at Columbus and arrived here last night, represents a general Union sentiment in Tennessee. The Legislature will acquiesce in the recommendation of Gov. Harris, because it is fearful of raising the Union sentiment. When he left Columbus, there were thirty thousand Confederate troops there.

Another gentleman who arrived from Nashville last night reports that the Confederates will make another stand. All the rebel troops had left Nashville except the police force.

When Gov. Harris fled with the regiments to Memphis he burned the State Library and distributed a large amount of commissary stores and provisions among the citizens. Stores are closed and business is entirely suspended. The Secessionists are leaving with their stocks and negroes, following the Confederate army.

Chicago, February 26.

The Pacific Railroad and Telegraph bill was reported to-day in the Senate.

A fire which destroyed $1,000,000 worth of property occurred at Boston yesterday. Several firemen were killed.

The telegraph lines were taken possession of by the Government to-day.

A bill has passed the House prohibiting all officers from returning fugitive slaves. Any officer violating to be dismissed the service.

Louisville, February 25.

A rebel deserter arrived from Munfordsville today, and reports that the rebels intend concentrating twenty thousand men at Murfreesboro, purporting to give battle there.

St. Louis, February 25.

Despatches were received at the headquarters of the Department of the West this morning, announcing that the army under Gen. Curtis had again routed Gen. Price, together with the forces sent to his assistance by the Confederates, under command of Gen. McCullough, at Cross Hollows, Ark. This was the place at which Price expected to make a last, determined resistance. It is forty miles from the Missouri boundary, and the point at which a desperate resistance might well be made. Gen. Curtis forced Price to leave behind him all his military stores; also his sick and wounded. Previous to his abandonment of the ground he ordered all his camp equipage to be burned, which was done.

Gen. Curtis, in his despatch to Gen. Halleck, says that most of his provisions for the last ten days have been taken from the enemy.

Price burned his extensive barracks at Cross Hollows, to prevent our troops occupying them.

The Mexican treaty resolutions, etc., were defeated in executive session of the Senate—ayes, 8; noes, 28. This carries the rejection of Gen. Scott as an additional Minister to Mexico.

Washington, February 26.

The leading features of the Treasury Note bill which passed yesterday are the issue and funding of fifty million of Treasury Notes, which may be made a legal tender for private and public dues, except for the payment of interest on the public debt and duties which are to be paid in coin. The fifty million dollars Demand Notes issued under the Act of July last, and the ten million of dollars under the Act of this month, may, however, be received in payment of duties on imports. The notes are to be issued for not less than fifty dollars, convertible into bonds bearing 6 per cent. interest, redeemable in five years. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorised to issue registered bonds to the extent of fifty millions of dollars, redeemable at pleasure, after five years, for the purpose of funding the Treasury Notes and the floating debt. The Act provides for deposit of notes not less than thirty days, at 5 per cent. interest.

Three gunboats from Fort Donelson had arrived at Nashville. They reported that Gov. Harris wished an interview with Gen. Grant. It is an erroneous statement that he delivered an "intense war message" to the Legislature, in which he declared that Tennessee must fight to the bitter end.

Gen. Nelson's Kentucky brigade reached Fort Donelson on Sunday. It was immediately sent forward to Nashville. Gen. Buell's timely arrival there undoubtedly saved the city from utter destruction, as Pillow could not have saved it from his desperadoes if the Federal force had not been in the vicinity.

New York, Feb. 26.

The British steamer Lebanon was taken as a prize on the Rio Grande by the sloop-of-war Portsmouth. She had half a cargo of cotton aboard; had previously landed a cargo of blankets and ordnance at Matamoras.

The President has approved the Treasury Note Bill.

A special despatch from Washington says that the indications in the Senate to-day clearly are in favor of the immediate passage of Trumbull's Confiscation bill, with amendments freeing all the slaves of rebels.

The U. S. Treasury Notes are at thirty per cent premium at Richmond, Va.

Cairo, Feb. 26.

Gen. Grant has declared martial law over Western Tennessee, with the understanding that upon a sufficient number of citizens of that State returning to their allegiance and showing a desire to maintain law and order, all military restrictions are to be withdrawn.

The Wilmington, N. C., *Journal* of yesterday says that five or six Federal gunboats have entered Roanoke river.

Baltimore, Feb. 26.

Edisto Island was occupied by Sherman's forces on the 18th, thus making another advance toward Charleston.

Chicago, Feb. 27—P. M.

A despatch from Clarksville gives gloomy accounts of the state of feeling at that place. They say that there is but one Union man there, and he is over sixty years of age, or he would have been killed long ago.

Washington, Feb. 27.

It is thought that Stark of Oregon will be admitted to a seat in the U. S. Senate to-day.

McDougall, from the Special Committee, reported a bill yesterday for the establishment of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific.

Santa Fe mail dates to the 10th February have arrived. Sibley's proclamation did not have the desired effect. Instead of rallying men to his standard, he has strengthened the Union party by at least two regiments, and placed nearly all the citizens under arms. Great enthusiasm prevails in the counties of Bernardino, Venecia and Coweco. In the upper counties the militia have turned out in large numbers.

Advices from Fort Craig to the 7th say that the Texans under Sibley were at Fort Towne, fifty miles from Fort Craig, advancing on the latter place. Supplies were scarce, the transportation poor, and the only alternative was to fight or starve. Both our forces were anxious for a battle, having every advantage, and confident of success, providing there be no treachery.

Grand Mass was celebrated at all the churches in the Territory on the 11th, to pray for the souls of Catholics killed in battle.

Chicago, Feb. 27.

Stark, of Oregon, is admitted to a seat in the U. S. Senate, by a vote of 26 to 19.

Congress has declined to adopt any measures to further the national representation at the Exhibition of Industry of all nations at London, next year.

Gens. Buckner and Tilghman have been sent to Fort Warren.

New York, Feb. 27.

The actual number of prisoners taken at Roanoke Island was 2,488.

As our forces took undisturbed possession of Edenton, part of a Flying Artillery regiment, variously estimated at from 150 to 300, fled precipitately, without firing a shot, and many of the inhabitants also left.

Among the results of the expedition are the destruction of eight cannon, and one schooner on the stocks at Edenton, and two schooners captured in the Sound.

Commodore Goldsborough says he remained two hours abreast of the town and was visited by the authorities and others, many of whom professed sentiments of loyalty to the old Union.

Washington, Feb. 27.

The *Republican* intimates that Jeff Davis has made overtures for a compromise. It is said that he asks for a Convention of all the States to definitely adjust the question. Its issue requires new guarantees for slavery.

Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts will to-morrow introduce in the Senate a resolution to extend aid to Maryland and Delaware, in order that they may abolish slavery.

St. Louis, Feb. 27.

Gen. Curtis has taken possession of Fayetteville, Ark., capturing a number of prisoners, baggage, stores, etc. The enemy burned part of the town before they left. They have crossed Boston mountains in great confusion. We now possess all their strongholds.

Chicago, Feb. 28.

The Governor of Georgia has called for 12 regiments from that State. If not forthcoming by the 4th March drafting will be ordered.

Commissioners have been appointed to examine into the case of all state prisoners at present under confinement.

Fortress Monroe, Feb. 27.

A meeting of the cotton and tobacco planters was held at Richmond, on Wednesday evening, to take into consideration the voluntary destruction of the cotton and tobacco crops. A number of speeches were made, but no conclusion was arrived at. A Committee was appointed to prepare business for an adjourned meeting this evening.

In the rebel Congress, on Wednesday, resolutions were offered declaring that the people of the Confederate States will, to the last extremity, maintain the rights of self government, and, to this end, pledge the last dollar and the last man in the prosecution of the war, until independence be acknowledged.

The Raleigh (N. C.) *Register* of the 20th says: "It would be criminal, as well as idle, to deny that the present time is the most gloomy the South has witnessed since the commencement of the war."

All the prisoners taken at Roanoke Island have been released on parole.

Communication with Savannah from Fort Pulaski is closed.

St. Louis, February 28.

Preparations for evacuation by the rebels of Columbus and demolition of the fortifications are being made. The rebel forces are to fall back to Island No. 10, forty miles below Columbus, which camp commands the river and is to be fortified with heavy guns, and made impregnable against any river attack.

The Union forces at Roanoke Island have possession of the seaboard railroad, thus cutting off all communication between Norfolk, Richmond, and the Southern seaboard.

A bill has been prepared by the Committee on Territories, and will be reported by the chairman probably to-day, providing a temporary civil government, under the protection of the military and naval forces, in the States in rebellion, the geographical boundaries to be fixed by the President.

A number of permits have been granted by the Treasury Department to trade between seceded and loyal States on the Atlantic coast and the Mississippi river.

Chicago, February 28.

The Richmond *Whig* of the 23d, speaking of Jeff. Davis' inauguration, says: "In view of the past, present, and probable future, the pageant presented is a bitter mockery, and a miserable compensation for the ruin of a free people."

Washington, February 28.

In the Senate, Mr. Stark offered the following: *Resolved*, That the papers relating to the loyalty of Benjamin Stark, Senator from Oregon, be referred to the Committee on Judiciary, with instructions to investigate the charges, or evidence, which has been or may be presented. Mr. Hale objected, and the resolution was laid aside.

St. Louis, March 1.

General Halleck, in a General Order, states that official information had been received that the rebels, in evacuating Mudtown, Ark., poisoned the provisions which they were obliged to abandon, and that 42 officers and men were poisoned by eating them. He says that we cannot retaliate by punishing the innocent for the acts of the guilty; the laws of war forbid this. But the same code authorizes the United States to retaliate on the parties guilty of such acts of poisoning. When captured they will not be treated as ordinary prisoners of war, nor will they be shot; but they will suffer an ignominious punishment—being hanged as felons. Officers of the troops of Government, although not advisers or abettors of this crime, will be treated as criminals by the laws of war, which make it their duty to prevent such barbarities; if they neglect their duty they must suffer the consequences.

A bill was introduced in the Senate to-day providing for the immediate emancipation of slaves in the District of Columbia, the legal owners being authorised to seek indemnification in the Courts.

The resolutions relating to the Seceded States were referred to the Territorial Committee. The Senate has resolved on the preparation of a bill which will provide for the government of those States, to consist of a council of nine members and Governors of each State. They are to be invested with power to abolish slavery, rent out plantations and farms of the Southern people, and compel all children to go to school. The bill to be reported to Congress next week.

European Intelligence.

European dates are to the 14th February:

Both Houses of Parliament had voted unanimously an address to the Queen in response to her speech. The Opposition approved of the course of the Government in the Trent affair.

Lord Derby thought that the Federal Government had assented with very bad grace to the demands of the British Government.

Lord Palmerston said that the distress in the manufacturing districts of England, from the blockade of the Southern ports, would not justify the interference of the Government, and that they would continue their neutral course.

The Federal gunboat Tuscarora left Cowes about 9 o'clock in the morning of the 6th, and proceeded westward. The Nashville had 40 hours' start of her. The engineer of the Nashville told the pilot who took her out that it was agreed by all on board that she should never be captured, and that he had all the valves of the engine so arranged that she could be blown up in a moment; and that if the capture of the Nashville was ever heard of, a violent explosion will accompany it.

The Bank of France had reduced the rate of discount to 4 per cent.

The product of the last cotton crop of India was pouring into Bombay.

The iron-clad frigate Warrior, on her passage to Lisbon, labored badly. Her decks and cabins were flooded. In nine cases out of ten she would not mind her helm.

In England six sets of Parliamentary papers on the civil war in America have been laid before Parliament. About 45 official communications have passed about the Tuscarora and Nashville.

Among the official correspondence laid before Parliament was Earl Russell's declaration to the Southern Commissioners that England could not acknowledge the Confederate States until war or further negotiations had clearly determined their position.

Mr. Gregory, in the House of Commons, denounced the blockade as a mere paper one.

It appears that in January last Earl Russell instructed Lord Lyons, if Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet asked for advice, to reply that England declined, unless both parties applied for counsel. Earl Russell reports an instance of a conversation with men (Yancy and Yost) who urged the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. His answer was that England would observe strict neutrality. Her Majesty could not acknowledge the independence of the Southern States until further negotiations more clearly determined the respective positions of the two belligerents.

In December, when war appeared probable between England and America, Lord Lyons was directed to speak with Mr. Seward about letters of marque, and say that, in case of a war with Great Britain, they were willing to abolish privateering if the President would make a similar engagement.

Indications in Parliament were that the movements for the recognition of Secession would be quiet.

Some debate took place in Parliament with regard to the imprisonment of a Canadian named Shepard, because he would not take the oath of allegiance. Earl Russell said that the oath was tendered to Shepard under the belief that he was an American citizen.

Earl Cardigan said he should certainly move for the papers.

Advices from Gibraltar say that the parties in the coaling business there resolved not to supply the Sumter with coal except for cash, her paper offered being deemed unnegotiable. Nautical men say that the ship had not any fight in her.

The London *Times* says that the American people, in the last six months, have contrived to spend more money in a shorter time, to less purpose, than any other people on the face of the globe, and that is literally all that has been done. It urges that the subjugation of the South is impossible.

The London *Gazette* has published, by order of the Privy Council, an order removing the prohibition to export saltpetre, arms and ammunition.

Glowing accounts are published in some of the British journals of the [British ?] Columbia gold fields.

Slidell had arrived in Paris.

The portion of the Queen's address to Parliament, relating to affairs on the American continent is as follows:

A question of great importance, and which might have led to very serious consequences, arose between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States of North America, owing to the seizure and forcible removal of four passengers from on board a British mail packet, by the commander of a ship of war of the United States. The question has been satisfactorily settled by the restoration of the passengers to British protection, and by the disavowal of this act of violence committed by the naval officer. The friendly relations between Her Majesty and the President of the United States, are, therefore, unimpaired. Her Majesty willingly appreciates the loyalty and patriotism which have been manifested on this occasion by Her Majesty's British American subjects.

The wrongs committed by various parties, and by successive Governments in Mexico upon foreign residents within the Mexican territory, and for which no satisfactory redress could be obtained, have led to the conclusion of a Convention between Her Majesty, the Emperor of France, and the Queen of Spain, for the purpose of regulating combined operations on the coast of Mexico, to obtain that redress which has hitherto been withheld. That Convention and papers relating to the subject will be laid before you.

ADDITIONAL.

Portland, Me., Feb. 27.

The following is additional news received by the steamship Hibernia, with dates from Londonderry, Ireland, to the 14th of February:

American affairs had been debated in the House of Lords, and papers relative to the blockade of the Southern ports were promised shortly by Earl Russell.

In the House of Lords, Earl Cardigan said that he had received information that three British subjects were confined in prison by the Federal Government, and had been there several months; that they were denied a trial or release unless they would take the oath of allegiance to the United States.

Earl Russell said the American Government alleged that they had undoubted proof, implicating these persons in conspiracies. Her Majesty's Government was not in position to contradict this, but had entered a strong remonstrance against the manner in which the arrest was made. Their case would be earnestly watched.

Earl Malmesbury, in asking for papers relating to the blockade, approved of the conduct of the Government. The question was one for them alone to decide, but it was desirable to know the real state of the blockade.

In the House of Commons, on the 11th, Cobden gave notice that at an early day he intended to bring under consideration of the House the state of International and Maritime law, as it affects the rights of belligerents.

An order has been received at Portsmouth to release a number of men and guns of ships of war in commission.

Diplomatic correspondence concerning the intervention in Mexico had been laid before Parliament. Earl Russell, in a letter to Sir Charles Wyke, touching rumors that the Duke Maximilian was to be called to the throne of Mexico, says that if the Mexican people by a spontaneous movement should place an Austrian Duke on the throne, there is nothing in the convention to prevent it. On the other hand, we could be no party to a forcible intervention for this purpose.

Paris letters say that Slidell has been received by M. Thouvenel in a private capacity, his diplomatic assumption of character [a Commissioner] being distinctly ignored.

The January mails from the coast of Africa had reached England. Increased activity in the slave trade was reported. The withdrawal of the American squadron had led to a large increase in the number of vessels carrying the American flag.

A great popular demonstration had taken place at Genoa in favor of Victor Emanuel and Rome as the capital of Italy. At Milan preparations had been made for a demonstration, but the Municipality issued a notice that such demonstrations were useless, and advising the Milanese to exercise their constitutional rights by signing the following protest, although respecting the Sovereign Pontiff of Rome as the head of the Church: "We look upon Rome as the capital of Italy, with one king, Victor Emanuel." The protest soon received an immense number of signatures.

Letters from Vienna are filled with lamentable accounts of an inundation. In the district submerged is Vienna; it also comprises a population of eighty thousand persons to be provided for. The rain fell four days without intermission. Bridges and viaducts were destroyed, and railroad service was nearly all suspended. Several towns were also inundated by the Danube, including Presburg and Pesth.

The Sumter was still at Gibraltar. Several of her crew who had landed refused to re-embark.

The "Brother Jonathan"—Will be the next steamer to arrive. She will leave San Francisco on the 8th, and according to the contract will come *via* Portland.

Sold.—The steamship Cortes has been sold to an English Company, and will be run on the Yang-tse river, China.

☞ The steamship Hermann will come direct to this port on the 1st April, carrying freight at $6 per ton and passengers proportionably low.

At Panama.—H. M. Ships Bacchante, Clio, Tartar and Termagant were at Panama February 11th.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, March 11, 1869.

The Chinese.

An interesting agitation is going on in California at the present time respecting the Chinese. For the first time in the history of that State there is a majority in the Legislature from the mining districts. The Chinese being hated, abused and oppressed everywhere throughout the mines, the Legislature is taking means, if possible, to expel them from the country. According to the constitution and the tenor of existing treaties between China and the United States, no law can be passed to exclude Mongolians from the country; but it is proposed to resort to class legislation—to levy such a heavy tax on Chinamen as will virtually exclude them—make it impossible for them to live in the country. Two bills were pending before the Legislature at last accounts with this object. Opposed however to the miners, and strayed in defence of the Chinese, are the agricultural counties and the commerce of the country, and in particular that of San Francisco. It is alleged that a large part of the vessels that arrive from China are laden chiefly with goods for Chinese merchants; and that some $3,000,000 in taxes and duties are annually collected from the Chinese and Chinese merchandise. It is urged that if the oppressive policy of the mining counties be carried out, that a heavy blow will be struck at the China trade. The agricultural counties also allege that the Chinese consume some $5,000,000 worth of produce, and that if the proposed laws, or either, are rendered operative, agriculture will suffer very severely. Besides which there exists an imperative necessity in the general want of cheap labor in the State. The leading Chinese companies and merchants have memorialized the legislature, and draw a painful picture of the oppression which they have suffered in California; and the superiority of Chinese liberality, which allows foreigners to live in China without other tax than a light duty on merchandise. There is much truth in their memorials. Still the Japanese policy appears to hold sway with the dominant race; and the beating, robbery, &c., which have been heaped upon the Chinese since 1854, is to culminate in laws like those that drove the Moors and Jews from Spain, or like the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, though somewhat milder, that drove the Huguenots to England. There is this difference—the Chinese are foreigners, not natives. Viewing the matter dispassionately, there are some social evils connected with a Mongolian population. Their inferior civilization, their language, their religion, their habits of living—all so hostile to the customs and prejudices of the higher and dominant race—but above all they congregate in large numbers in California and come in competition with white labor. The reduction of the price of labor appears to be the great social grievance, which is heightened and strengthened by dissimilarity of race. So that no means appears open to the laboring population—the miners especially—but exclusion.

In whatever way the Legislature and people of California may settle the Chinese question, and we think it will eventuate, if not this year, perhaps a year or two hence, in laws virtually excluding them, we see no substantial reason why this country—these colonies, and the territory stretching from Fort Simpson to the Arctic Ocean may not provide an asylum for at least 50,000 Chinamen. We have an ample field for the employment of Chinese industry. They are expert fishermen, and we have a long coast in which swim excellent fish—valuable as food or in the arts. They are fond of agriculture; and we have a boundless extent of agricultural land which can be rendered productive by their cheap labor. In our gold mines there must, in the nature of things, be extensive auriferous districts in which the cheap labor of China could be profitably employed both to themselves and to the State without at all interfering with the more civilised, more energetic, and more valuable white miner. Both classes may prosper for many years in our gold fields together. On this point we have the experience of Australia and California. There they were first welcomed; next jealousy of them was aroused; then they were abused, and lastly, resort has been had in both countries to special legislation both for their exclusion and their protection. As the Chinese increased in numbers and the pay of the white miner decreased in value, the different shades of feeling toward Chinamen have been manifested. With the experience of those countries before us, our policy should be shaped so as to invite a Chinese immigration without being overwhelmed by an excessive number, and check their immigration gradually without oppressing them. Were we to hold out glowing accounts to them to come, and after they had served our purpose, turn them adrift—oppress them, such a course could scarcely be defended. We have to watch their immigration and warn them in time. No one, perhaps, can be found in this country who would prohibit Chinese coming here at this early stage in our history; and whilst we are willing to invite them to this country to engage in every kind of employment, we cannot but foresee that a similar agitation must eventually arise in this country to what has occurred in Australia, or to what is now going on in California, if we do not watch, guide, and control the Chinese immigration from the beginning. We have previously stated that our geographical position, our geographical relations to British Columbia and Washington Territory, indicate that this country is destined to be the distributing point of the Chinese for the North Pacific. No one can doubt this who will reflect on the current of events. Hence, whilst our sectional interests may be best served by promoting such a tide, it is wise to be prepared in time to meet the responsibilities it brings, and deal with it from a higher point of view than has hitherto gained currency in the dealings of the white population of Australia or California with the Chinese.

The New Bankrupt Act.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—By a provision of this law, the debtor may be discharged upon furnishing bail, a summons being first issued by the Court to the creditor to show cause, etc.

Bail having been tendered yesterday under this provision, in the case of the recently imprisoned debtor, the Chief Justice named next Tuesday as the date for the return of the summons, until which date the debtor must remain prison.

A further provision of the Act authorises the Sheriff to accept bail. Several merchants having offered to become security for his appearance, the Sheriff expresses his willingness to release the victim, being entirely satisfied with the bail, but he has not yet received a copy of the Act, and will do nothing except under instruction of the Court.

Meantime, the Hon. Chief Justice is at Belmont, where he will remain until Monday, and the unfortunate debtor must suffer the penalties of the laws without being able to avail himself of the relief for which provision is made by the same Act. JUSTICE.

FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The bark Francisco, Captain Richmond, arrived here from Honolulu, S. I., on Saturday, in 17 days. We are indebted to Capt. Richmond for files of late Sandwich Island papers.....Henry A. Neilson, formerly private Secretary to King Kamehameha, and who was shot in the back by his angust employer, two years and a half ago, while the latter was in a fit of jealousy and drunkenness, died February 12th from the effects of the wound. The *Advertiser* says that "for two years and a half he has been confined to his room by the *unfortunate occurrence* which is familiar to all."....The Cariboo and Oregon gold excitement has attacked the Islanders, and will carry many of them off.....The anniversary of the King's birthday was duly observed on the 10th ult.....Thursday, Feb. 28th, was fixed as a day for fasting and prayer.....The market is lively. Sugar is quoted at 8c9c., best grades; inferior from 5c. to 7c.; molasses, in packages, 17a18c. per gal., market nearly bare. California flour is $12, and Honolulu-made from California wheat is held at a like figure. Salmon, in bbls., $8; in half bbls., $5a36.

THE "FOURTH ESTATE."—In the California Assembly a bill has been introduced which compels the Recorders of the several counties of the State to subscribe for at least one, and not more than three, newspapers published in their respective counties. These they are to have properly arranged and bound in volumes, and said volumes must be kept in the offices for the use of the Courts when needed, of strangers, and the inhabitants of the county, all of whom shall have access to the same at all times during office hours, free of charge. Quite a sensible movement. We wonder that some one of our legislators—prone as they all are to introduce measures which tend to the public benefit—hasn't thought of something of the kind.

"THE DANIEL WEBSTER."—A letter has been received in this city from Commodore John T. Wright, well known to most of our readers as the owner of several steamships running on this coast. He has purchased in New York city the large steamship Daniel Webster, and designs refitting and placing her in trim for the trade between this port and San Francisco. The Daniel Webster was formerly one of the Nicaragua line of steamers, and is said to be, in all respects, a fine vessel.

LINE OF STEAMERS.—A letter received here yesterday from Mr. Meldrum, of the firm of Stewart, Meldrum & Co., says that we shall have a line of English steamers running from Panama to this port in a short time. Spead the day!

COLVILLE GOLD.—A rich specimen of gold quartz from Fort Colville has been exhibited at Portland, Oregon.

ICE IN THE COLUMBIA.—The Columbia river is still frozen and new ice formed on the night of the 25th ult.

☞ The Congressional committee on the reduction of the expenses of the Government expect to make a reduction of about $4,000,000 in the army roll, $200 000 or $300,000 in the expenses of Congress, and large amounts in the matter of printing and the navy; also in the United States courts of law, and collection of customs, etc., at New York and other large cities. The whole amount of the matter is, that there will be introduced a series of measures to bring about economy.—*American Ex.*

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY, March 7.

A POOR EXCUSE.—An attempt is made to excuse the arrest of the last debtor for the reason that the judgment is *owned here*. A pretty excuse, truly. The judgment was obtained in California some years ago and sold to a man now residing in Victoria for a trifle, by whom the debtor has been prosecuted to the bitter end. The debt was originally $700; interest and law expenses have swelled it to nearly $1500! and this sum the unfortunate merchant is called on to pay, or suffer a deprivation of his liberty for an indefinite period. Whether the person who bought the judgment on speculation is an inhabitant of the moon, or whether he resides in California or Victoria, makes no difference in equity. Months ago the debtor applied to be passed through bankruptcy under the old English law; took the preliminary steps, and then halted (no doubt with the consent, if not with the advice, of the Chief Justice,) for the passage of the local Act. Three days after the local Act has gone into force—even while the victim is preparing a statement of his assets—along comes a writ, issued by the very same Judge before whom the proceedings in bankruptcy were originally taken, which consigns him to the debtor's prison—because he had not filed his petition in time! We feel humiliated when we reflect that a law which gave to a Victoria Shylock an opportunity to speculate in a mouldy foreign judgment, at the cost of the liberty and reputation of a poor but honest debtor, ever existed here. We are glad that the relic of barbarism is wiped out at last, and hope that no sane person will entertain for a moment the idea that because the speculator in broken down business reputations resides in this town, that he is any more entitled to consideration than if he lived in the moon.

THE "SIERRA NEVADA."—This steamer arrived at Esquimalt at six o'clock yesterday morning, in four days and a half from San Francisco, having left that port on the 1st inst., and came through *direct*. She brought about 500 passengers, freight and 90 mules. Some 425 of the passengers were booked for Portland, but about 50 last evening expressed their intention of remaining and taking their chance for a pile at Cariboo. The steamer discharged freight for this place at 9 o'clock and left for Bellingham Bay, to land the mules. The freight still aboard is heavy, and is destined for Portland, at which port the steamer will touch on her way down. She is announced to leave for below at 7 o'clock this morning.

NOT COMING.—A schooner arrived yesterday from Olympia, bringing a report that the steamer Enterprise will not return to this port for several weeks. One account says that she is laid up for repairs; and another at sy has it that she has been libelled by Geo. Parkinson, the U. S. Mail contractor. If the last report be true, the libel probably arises out of the sale of the Enterprise to the Hudson Bay Company several weeks since—Parkinson maintaining that he had chartered the boat to convey the mails on the Sound for one year, and that its owners have no right to dispose of her until the completion of the contract.

THE THREATS TO SHOOT.—Hanson Tilton, who drew a pistol in the Bank Exchange Saloon, and threatened to shoot Joe. Lovett, was brought up for examination on the charge before Mr. Pemberton yesterday. Mr. Dennes appeared for the prosecution, and the accused asked for time to consult counsel. The Court postponed the case till 11 o'clock to-day. The prisoner, on furnishing bonds in $1000 to appear, was set at liberty. The court room was densely crowded by friends of both parties.

A BILL.—The theatricals were advertised to play at the Lyceum last night, and quite a crowd assembled to witness the performance; but a misunderstanding of a pecuniary nature arose between the proprietor of the house and the company, and the "rag" was not "blated." To-day we learn that the company will scrape Victoria mud from their heels and depart per steamer for Portland.

THE MINT.—Mr. Claudet, of the New Westminster Assay Office, returned from San Francisco yesterday with the necessary apparatus for making coin. The dies will be up by the next steamer and it is expected that the mint will be in operation before the 1st of May next.

☞ A young man named March was arrested last night on suspicion of having stolen a watch.

☞ A tangle-leg seller, named Harmann Elliott, was yesterday arrested by Sergeant Blake.

SATURDAY, March 8.

THE "SIERRA NEVADA."—This steamer left Esquimalt for San Francisco by way of Portland at half-past 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She had on board, from the look of the decks, about 425 passengers, including some 30 Victorians. Nearly all the passengers who had purchased tickets for Portland re-embarked. She dropped at this place not more than 125 persons. The rallying cry with the remainder was "Salmon River," and few will stop short of that famed locality.

THE BANK EXCHANGE AFFAIR.—In the Police Court yesterday morning Hanson Tilton appeared to answer the charge of drawing a pistol on Joseph Lovett, at the Bank Exchange Saloon, on Wednesday night last, and threatening to shoot him. From the evidence adduced it appears that Tilton, rather the worse for liquor, entered the Saloon and asked several gentlemen to join him in a drink. The parties advanced to the bar and the complainant had placed a number of tumblers on the counter, when Tilton leaned forward and drew them together, breaking several. Lovett remonstrated. Tilton said he had a right to break as many glasses as he pleased, provided that he paid for them, which he was ready to do. Lovett denied his right and had commenced to remove the glasses and bottles from the counter, when Tilton reached forward towards a porter bottle, which Lovett grasped and put away. Tilton accused the complainant of an intention to strike him with the bottle, which the latter denied, when the accused stepped back, and drawing a derringer pistol, said, "You d— s— of a b—, you've drawn a bottle on me and I'm going to plump you with this!" Mutual friends interfered and prevented the carrying into execution of the threat. None of the witnesses knew whether the pistol was loaded or empty. Mr. Ring claimed that, for all the witnesses knew, the supposed deadly weapon might have been a meerschaum pipe. The accused had entered the Saloon somewhat under the influence of liquor, and remembering that "No music surpasses the jingle of glasses," had broken a few, intending to pay for them afterwards. Any indiscretion that his client might have been led into on the occasion, he deeply regretted, for it was entirely foreign to his intention or design to injure any person. The Court, in rendering the decision, said that it had no power to punish the prisoner for an *intention* to commit an assault, and he would therefore only bind him over to keep the peace—himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each.

A TANGLE-LEG CASE.—Herman Erwin, *alias* Elliott, was brought before Mr. Pemberton yesterday, at the Police Court, on a charge of selling liquor to Indians. Mr. Ring appeared for the defence. Sergeant Blake testified to seeing Herman sell some tangle-leg to a native. The Indian was brought forward as a witness for the prosecution, and stated positively that the prisoner had sold him a bottle of the trash. The prisoner excitedly—with the scalding tears of innocence in his eyes and the hot flush of "honest" indignation on his cheek—repudiated the charge, and addressing the Court as "Your Lordship," asked permission to say a word or two. "His Lordship" bowed assent, and Herman, elevating his right hand and shaking a finger not particularly famous for its cleanliness, at the officer who had made the arrest, said: "Do you know what you wanted me to do Mr. Blake? You wanted me to do the meanest, most awfulest act that ever was done in this Colony—to kidnap poor marines so as you could make $15 apiece off of them." "I did, did I?" asked Blake. "Yes, you did; and you wanted me to rope Charley ——— into trouble—to pretend that he had sold whisky to Siwashes—because his father had plenty of money to pay the fine with. I'll go to the chain-gang for three months, but you're wrong, Mr. Blake, you're wrong; you never seed me sell no liquor. This Injun witness has sold me for a dollar; you give him a dollar to swear that I sold him the liquor; but, [shaking once more the unwashed digit at the object of his wrath] you're wrong, Mr. Blake, you're wrong." After a short address from Mr. Ring, the Court fined Herman $100, or in default ordered him to assist in the improvement of the highways and byeways of Victoria town for the space of six months.

"WATCH AND PREY."—Albion Marsh and P. O'Griffin were in the Police dock yesterday on a charge of preying on the property—viz., a watch—of one Graham. It seemed that Graham was about to raffle off the timepiece—worth two-and-a-half in any respectable New York mock auction shop—at a saloon in this city, and, in order to dispose of shares, went around showing the article to his friends. Among others he ran across a Mr. McLevy, who asked the loan of the sticker to examine it closely. McL. took the concern and forgot to return it or lost it, and Regulator Blake found it in Marsh's house on Thursday night, whereupon he took him and O'Griffin into custody. The case was dismissed, there being no evidence on which to found a charge of larceny.

FOR ENGLAND.—The bark Princess Royal will sail from here on or about Monday next, for London, with some 40 passengers and a large and valuable cargo of furs, oil, etc., and considerable gold dust. Among those for whom passage has been secured are two or three families, a young son of His Excellency Governor Douglas, and 25 invalided sailors.

INDIAN DESPERADOES.—One of the Police caught a Chimsean and a Hydah Indian at the rancheria, on Thursday, carving away at each other with knives, and arrested them. One had lost an eye and the other had a deep cut in the head, and, from their appearance, the officer did not arrive a moment too soon to save their lives. They were each roundly fined.

☞ The steamer Emily Harris left yesterday morning for Olympia, W. T.

FROM BARCLAY SOUND.—The steam-tug Diana arrived last night from Barclay Sound, with 19 passengers. The Prince of the Seas, Pocahontas, and Vitula, are loading with lumber at the mill. The True Briton is ready for sea. The copper mining company are at work and have taken out about one ton of ore.

THE "OTTER."—With five passengers, arrived from Burrard's Inlet last night. Capt. Moore, with the Flying Dutchman, is endeavoring to break a passage through the ice from New Westminster to the mouth of the river. He had made some 30 yards up to ten o'clock yesterday. There is no other news.

PROWLER.—Mr. Bunster caught an Indian prowling about his brewery yesterday morning and attempted to arrest him. The rascal, however, held him at bay with a large knife until a good opportunity offered, when he darted off and disappeared in the surrounding darkness.

THE THEATRICAL COMPANY GONE.—The theatrical company—including our whilom friend, the veteran Potter—got off yesterday by the Sierra Nevada. They are bound for Portland, Oregon.

TREASURE.—Wells, Frigo & Co. shipped only $5,933 09 by the Sierra Nevada. No extra guard accompanied the enormous sum from the office to the steamer.

MONDAY, March 10.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—It is rumored that this body, prorogued till the 11th inst. (to-morrow), will be further prorogued by proclamation to-day. We are glad to notice so much consideration manifested by the Executive towards our Solons. They labored so earnestly last session, and brought forth so many excellent measures, that we really consider them entitled to all the repose the exigencies of the country will afford them. We "go in" for giving them plenty of time in which to recuperate their exhausted frames and wearied minds.

EPIDEMIC—Sore throats and hoarseness have become epidemic in Victoria recently. Very few persons but are afflicted with one or both complaints, to a greater or less degree. Putrid sore throat has prevailed to considerable extent in San Francisco during the past winter, and many children have died from its effects. A case which terminated fatally occurred here on Friday last. Too much care cannot be exercised at this season of the year with the juveniles by those having them in charge. Adults are expected to look out for themselves.

FAMILY JARS.—A resident of Esquimalt was before the Police Magistrate on Saturday on a charge of breaking the doors of his house and threatening to kill his wife. The pair separated some time since, on account of incompatibility of temper, but have lately come together again. The husband's property is held by the wife, a circumstance which, the former attributes, as the cause of the "jars." The case was remanded for three days, and the husband, unable to obtain security for his good conduct, was locked up.

THE STICKEEN GOLD HUNTERS.—Our special correspondent, "Gold Hunter," who left on the sloop Hamley for Stickeen River, a fortnight since, dropped us a line from Cape Mudge, on the 27th ult. The party was getting along finely; the weather cool, but not unpleasant; considerable snow on the hillsides. All were in good health and highly elated by reports received from Indians of the richness of the gold diggings.

NANAIMO.—Coal was struck in the new shaft on the 5th inst. The seam is four feet and six inches in thickness.....The schooner Carolena arrived on the 5th bringing a number of cattle.....The store of Mr. Israel was broken into by Chimsean Indians, on the 6th, and a quantity of boots and other articles stolen. Loss small. No arrests.

TWO DELEGATES.—New Westminster will send two good men and true, as delegates from that place to London, to lay the humble petition of the residents of that town, concerning the mail subsidy and the "steamboating" operations of our Government, at the foot of the throne. A subscription to defray the expenses of the delegates is being taken up.

UP FOR VICTORIA AND PORTLAND.—The bark A. A. Eldridge was up at Honolulu, S. I., for this place and Portland, to sail on the 22d ult. She will bring a full cargo of sugar, molasses, and coffee, and may be looked for this day.

☞ The brig Francisco brought a very small cargo to this place, and having discharged on the afternoon of her arrival, left same evening for Port Gamble mills.

THE INVALIDS.—The invalided sailors who will depart for England on the Princess Royal to-day, were brought from Esquimalt yesterday by the gunboat Forward.

AT HOME.—The family of our defaulting Postmaster General have joined him in London.

☞ The Eliza Anderson was safely placed on Scurgin & Bolton's ways, on Saturday last.

☞ The Princess Royal will sail for London this week.

TUESDAY, March 10.

Wreck of the Bark Anna Barnard—Two Lives Lost.

Capt. Olmstead and seven seamen, late of the New Granadian bark Anna Barnard, bound from San Francisco to Sooke, for a cargo of piles and lumber, arrived here last evening in Indian canoes from Cape Flattery, and report that the vessel to which they were attached was lost on the west cost of this island between eight and nine o'clock, on the night of February 26th. The vessel left San Francisco, in ballast, on the 19th ult., and had made a fine run to the Cape. The place where she went ashore is 15 miles below San Juan harbor, and the weather was thick at the time. She broke in two amidships almost immediately after striking, and Captain Olmstead, with two men—the cook and a seaman—lowered the boat and attempted to reach the shore; but the boat was dashed against a rock and broken up, and the cook and seaman drowned. The Captain succeeded in swimming ashore. The remainder of the crew—seven in number—clung to the rigging for six hours, when they took advantage of low tide to clamber ashore over the rocks. The vessel went to pieces the next day, and the Indians possessed themselves of the ship's stores and furniture which floated ashore. The survivors remained at the lodges until Wednesday, the 5th inst., when a number of canoes, filled with San Juan Harbor Indians, appeared and took them to Nettinet. While at that place, on Thursday last, they saw the steamtug Diana passing on her way to Victoria from Barclay Sound. The New Granadian flag was raised by those on shore, and the tug lowered her sail and hoisted her flag. The weather was too rough to afford any relief, and the tug subsequently went back to Barclay Sound. The next morning the tug again hove in sight. The signal was raised by Capt. Olmstead, but it probably was not seen from on board the tug, as she proceeded on her way without answering. The next day the sufferers started in canoes for Victoria, reaching here last evening. They were kindly cared for last night by Mr. Wilcox, of the Royal Hotel, and Captain Collins, of the schooner W. L. Richardson. They are in destitute circumstances, having barely escaped with enough clothes to cover them. The wrecked vessel had made two trips to this port within the past six months. She was very old and was, we believe, uninsured.

MEAN.—If an Indian story is to be believed, a party of Cape Flattery Indians brought six mighty mean white men to this place on Sunday. The Indians state that six men came to their lodges near the Cape and told them that they had been shipwrecked many miles up the coast and were making their way to Victoria; that they had suffered much from exposure, and that if the natives would take them to the end of their journey they would be suitably rewarded. The Indians immediately made their guests comfortable, supplied them with food at the lodges for several days, and finally started with them in canoes for Victoria, reaching here on Sunday afternoon. On arriving the men told their benefactors that they would remunerate them for their trouble yesterday, but up to dark last evening the latter had not laid eyes on them since parting at the wharf. So an old chief came to us, told the story, and requested us to let the people here know what kind of men his people have landed in this town. There is hardly any doubt but the Indians were imposed upon by the men whom they befriended, and we greatly fear when a shipwreck really does occur at or near the Cape, that the natives will plunder the survivors of the wreck to remunerate themselves for their trouble and expense in this instance.

P. S.—Since writing the above we learn that the parties alluded to were sailors belonging to the ship Pocahontas, which vessel they had deserted, and had deceived the Indians in order to escape being apprehended.

MISHAPS TO THE "PRINCESS ROYAL."—Early yesterday morning the steamer Otter started to tow the Hudson Bay Company's bark Princess Royal, bound for London, out of the harbor. In rounding Shoal Point the bark grounded and remained there for about half an hour, when the steamer continued to tug her off, and towed her to the outer harbor without further mishap. Here, however, the steamer started ahead to shift her position, and in doing so ran across the bark's bows, when the flying jib-boom of the latter caught the Otter's mizzen-mast and was carried away. She subsequently anchored in Royal Bay. The Otter came back to her wharf, procured a spar and a number of carpenters and returned again to the assistance of her convoy at 11 o'clock. The bark, having repaired damages, sailed last evening.

OUT AGAIN.—We were glad to meet Dr. Tuzo yesterday at his old station on the Hudson Bay Company's wharf, attending to business, with the aid of crutches. This is the doctor's first appearance in town since the date of the occurrence of the accident by which his leg was fractured—some three months since.

PROROGUED.—By reference to the proclamation in another column, it will be seen that His Excellency the Governor has prorogued the House of Assembly till Wednesday, 19th inst.

THE "PRINCESS ROYAL."—This fine bark left our harbor yesterday morning, in tow of the steamer Otter. She is bound to London, and has on board a precious human freight, as well as gold dust, furs and oil. The list of passengers, as furnished us by the Hudson Bay Company, is as follows: Rev. W. B. Crickmer, wife and 3 children, Rev. Mr. Tugwell and wife, James Douglas, jr., John L. Breitel, Samuel Maylor and 3 children, Charles and Ernest Gordon, James Cattie, 4 Sappers, 1 woman and 2 children, from the camp of Royal Engineers, and 17 invalids from H. M. fleet at Esquimalt. The amount of gold dust shipped by the Company was 3000 ounces, or about $50,000. The value of the furs and oil we did not ascertain.

CHAIN-GANG OPERATIONS.—A portion of our chain-gang were put to work yesterday clearing the mud from Yates street, below Government. A very sensible movement; and if the property holders will but second the movement of the authorities, and provide the carts in which to remove the mud when it is scraped to the sides of the streets, they will have a clean thoroughfare for the balance of the season.

DELUGE ENGINE CO.—At a meeting of this company, held last evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Foreman, J. S. Drummond; 1st Assistant, J. Hoctor; 2nd Assistant, H Pickett; Secretary, J. L. Buckley; Standing Committee, A. Clink, J. Sehl, A. Johnson; Delegates, J. S. Drummond, J. P. Hoctor, A. Clink.

A COURSE OF SPROUTS.—Two of the convicts stood on their dignity and refused to do their share of work yesterday, for which refusal they will be put through a course of sprouts to bring down their proud flesh. A bread and water poultice is a great corrective when applied internally to the stomachs of overfed and refractory convicts.

☞ Thirty-one prisoners (two of the number debtors and two lunatics) are confined in jail.

☞ The steam-tug Diana was filling with freight last evening for Barclay Sound.

Naval Contracts in Vancouver Island Again.

Want of space prevented us yesterday from commenting as fully as we wished on the letter of the *Times'* correspondent and from contrasting our correspondence with it. In fact we would not even now recur to the subject again—we would leave Mr. Fraser to his own pleasant reflections, were it not our duty as a public journalist; and did not our mercantile community and our tradesmen possess a direct interest in securing public competition in all naval contracts awarded here. The tendency of the letter in the *Times* of December 11, 1861—the *Times* that is read in England by high and low, rich and poor, and what it contains regarded as truth—the tendency is not only to make the British public believe that the navy has been supplied here at the lowest rates, but that the voice of the mercantile community, when expressed through the press here, is totally unworthy of credence. It is necessary then to counteract such pernicious effects; show to the British public that the navy were not supplied at as low a rate in some articles as it was possible; and also to prevent the recurrence of such ill-timed remarks as have fallen from the pen of the *Times'* correspondent.

As regards the press—and we speak only for the COLONIST—which has been assailed in the *Times* about attacking Admiral Maitland for not advertising for tenders, its attacks (our remarks) were confined only to one or two five-line local items, in which a hasty reference was made to naval contracts, and to two letters from correspondents—one of whom was W. J. McDonald, Esq., M.P.P., the junior member of the firm of Reid & McDonald, who signed himself "Citizen;" the other was signed "A Baker," and was written by Mr. A. Somerville. These gentlemen for speaking out—for demanding that the contracts for stores and bread should be advertised for, have been characterised as "obscure Helots." And why, if not because "Citizen" stated that "there are several reliable men who would give bonds to furnish all supplies at 25 per cent less than they are now furnished?" Even that is confirmed by the letter which we published yesterday from Messrs. Janion & Green who state that sugar could have been supplied "at from 25 to 33 per cent below the present contract price." As Mr. McDonald is one, with others, whom Mr. Fraser calls an "obscure Helot," we are authorized to refer our London readers to Messrs. John Gosnell & Co, 12 Three Kings' Court, Lombard street, London. Here reference is unnecessary. There the firm of Messrs. Reid & McDonald stands so high that when it is known that Mr. McDonald wrote against the contracts, it will be utterly impossible for a *Times* correspondent, by recourse to hard phrases, to gain credence. The very fact of a member of a prominent firm condemning the manner in which the naval contracts were given out, fully vindicates the COLONIST from Mr. Fraser's personal allusions.

Let us take another glance at the bread contract, and contrast it with what the *Times'* correspondent has stated. The *Times* says: It was given to the *only* man in the colony who could fulfil it. In contradiction to that assertion we have the statement of three bakers—Nesbit, Somerville, and Derham—that they were prepared to fulfil it, and give the best security. And that is not a very great sum, for we are assured that it is only £100. Any baker in the place could give such security. So the assertion about the "*only* man" who could fulfil it is utterly refuted—entirely unworthy of credence. Then again comes the statement that "no one else possesses the 'plant,' or has the means to supply the squadron with bread." Now what does Mr. Nesbit tell us on this point? That his "plant" (machinery) is the latest patent—is better than Mr. McKenzie's, and if any one will examine them, they will see that for themselves. Here again is another remarkable contradiction—a flat contradiction to the assertion of the *Times'* correspondent—one that may be verified any day by any naval officer. But we are also told that some would have imported the bread from San Francisco.—Against this remark Messrs. Somerville, Nesbit, and Derham state that they had made preparations to manufacture it here.

Keeping in mind the refutation of these points, let us look on another insidious—deceptive phrase in the *Times'* correspondence. It is there stated that it was "renewed *at a reduced price* to the only man who could fulfil it." The "reduced price" is calculated to make a very different impression in England from the right one. It might be interpreted to mean the *lowest* price; but the real state of the case is that Mr. McKenzie took the bread contract for six cents per lb. [A typographical error in yesterday's edition stated seven.] Now that is the reduced price. Possibly reduced below former rates, but certainly above the prevailing rates at that time. Let us see what bakers would have baked it for then for the navy. Somerville says 5 cents per lb., or 1 cent less than the contract price; Nesbit says 4¾ cents per lb., or 1¼ cents per lb. lower than the contract price; and Derham says 4½ cents per lb., or 1½ cents per lb. lower than the contract rate. In the first case the bread could have been supplied to the navy at 16 per cent. less than it is; in second, 20 per cent.; and in the third, 25 per cent. less. This, then, shows what kind of a "reduced price" the contract was taken at, and what an erroneous impression must be made in England by the *Times'* correspondent. Yet the matter is polished off beautifully in the *Times* by saying that the bread would be imported from San Francisco, or if the contract were given to others it could not be fulfilled.

BIRTH.

At Victoria, March 6th, the wife of Wm. Zeiner, of a daughter.

DIED.

In this city, on the 6th of March, Mary Isabella Alice, only daughter of John A. and Sophia Cameron, aged 14 months and 14 days.

Cornwall (C. W.) papers please copy.

In this city, on the 6th inst., James, infant son of Mr. John Heal, aged five months.

PASSENGERS.

Per stmr SIERRA NEVADA, from San Francisco—Mrs. Brown and 4 children, Wells, Moody, Beedy, Bosworth, Ewall, McDonald, Miss Fichey, Miss Draper, Traverse, Stalshmidt, Cours, Kim-Hustin, Brenan, James, Claudet, Baker, Kitrell and family, Hurley, Schel, Powers, Dunn, Sullivan, Brown, Shields, Downey, H M Famy James Famy, H Mann, Fitsgerald, Ousterhout, Waller, Claringly, Donaldson, Mann, N Columb, P Bonsuit, Feathers, H Bonsuit, King, Moust, Muller, Cumings, Richards, Wood, J Dumas, B Dumas, Milton, Lubusky, Johnson, Gaspard, Thomas, Munson, Shormer, Williams, Nason, Hodges, Maynard, wife and 3 children, Hacker, Beanon, Ronyen, Monahan, Rouger, McGinny, Barfield, J Williams, Jno Williams, Martin, Barton, Enwood, Edwards, Trudgeon, Denman, Orr, Reeve, Conley, Jones, Davis, Lewis, Thomas, Davis, Williams, Gankin, Landen, Smith, Fabien, Leges, Brown, Trumathen, Mooney, Moran, Cash, Smith, Bonderent, C Smith, James, A Smith.

IMPORTS.

Per stmr SIERRA NEVADA, from San Francisco—9 cs cigars, 11 pgs clothing, 1 do hats and caps, 2 do dry goods, 2 do shirts, 106 do machinery, 6 cs boots and shoes, 3 do books and paper, 2 bdls paper, 3 pgs cigars, 4 do shawls, 1 bdle saws, 2 cs locks, 2 do axes, 4 do scales, 4 do kettles, 5 pgs hdware, 38 cs boots, 12 bales duck, 4 cs bacon, 7 sks bacon, 4 pgs hdware, 5 do dry goods, 1 do 22 do hdware, 10 do drugs and medicine, 4 do pipes, 3 do cuttlery, 1 do glassware, 1 cs thread, 1 sewing machine, 1 pg belting, 1 do sheeting, 25 do soap, 1 do cottons, 8 do planks, 6 do fellows and spokes, 8 do iron, 2 do shafts, 3 do poles, 1 do shirts and drawers, 5 do dry goods, 3 do fancy do, 2 do hats, 9 pgs butter, 1 do dry goods, 1 do tobacco, 1 do opium. Value, $28,500. 3 cs lamps, 51 do mdse, 1 wagon, 1 cs belting, 3 do duck, 2 do onions, 2 do rubber, 1 do butter, 20 do rye flour. Value not specified.

Per brig FRANCISCO, from Honolulu—27 bales pula, J Lowe; 48 bags coffee, Puget Sound Mill Co; 171 kegs sugar, 52 bls pulu, 1 chain cable, 80 bxs tobacco, Janion & Green Value unspecified.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, V. I.

ARRIVED.

Mar 3—Stmr Otter, Mouat, New Westminster
Mar 4—Sloop Wild Duck, Preston, Port Townsend
Sloop Random, Sauders, San Juan
Boat Nonsuch, Miller, San Juan
Mar 5—Stmr Emily Harris, Court, New Westminster
Sloop W B Naylor, Waller, San Juan
Mar 6—Stmr Sierra Nevada, Dall, San Francisco
Schr Potter, Griffiths, Port Townsend
Mar 7—Stmr Sierra Nevada, Dall, Port Townsend
Schr Saucy Lass, Sabournier, N W Coast.
March 8—Stmr Otter, Mouat, New Westminster
Stmr Diana, Henderson, Alberni
Brig Francisco, Richmond, Honolulu
Boat Lincoln, Higgins, San Juan
March 10—Schr Lalla Rookh, Cormack, Port Townsend
Sloop Lady Franklin, Peterson, Port Townsend

CLEARED.

Mar 4—Bark Gold Hunter, Hoeg, Port Townsend
Stmr Caledonia, West, San Juan
Sloop Random, Sanders, San Juan
Mar 5—Stm Otter, Mouat, New Westminster
Sloop W B Naylor, Waller, San Juan
Boat Nonsuch, Miller, San Juan
Mar 6—Stmr Sierra Nevada, Dall, Port Townsend
Schr Potter, Griffiths, Port Townsend
Sloop Lady Franklin, Peterson, Port Townsend
Mar 7—Stmr Sierra Nevada, Dall, San Francisco
Stmr Emily Harris, Court, Port Townsend
Schr Union Forever, Caughell, Port Townsend
Schr Wild Pigeon, Atkinson, Port Townsend
March 8—Brig Francisco, Richmond, Port Townsend
Boat Lincoln Higgins, San Juan
March 11—Schr Ino. Taylor, Stickeen

HEALTH FOR A SHILLING!

Holloway's Pills.

Headaches, Bile, Loss of Appetite, and Lowness of Spirits.

These Pills require no interruption of business or pleasure; they act mildly on the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and promote a healthy action of the liver, whereby they purify the blood, cleanse the skin, brace the nerves, and invigorate the whole system. They effect a truly wonderful change in debilitated constitutions, as they create a healthy appetite, correct indigestion, remove bile, giddiness, headaches, and palpitation of the heart.

Weakness and Debility.

In cases of debility, languor, and nervousness generated by excess of any kind, whether mental or physical, the effect of these Pills is in the highest degree bracing, renovating and restorative. They drive from the system the morbid cause of disease; re-establish the digestion, regulate all the secretions, brace the nervous system, raise the patient's spirits, and bring back the frame to its pristine health and vigor. They increase the appetite, while they require perfect digestion to all ordinary food, and release the invalid from restraint in diet.

A Word to Females.

There are two periods, especially in Woman's life, which require for safe passage, judgment and attention. Irregularity is apt at those critical times to take place, and to lay the foundation of future disease. These Pills, safe in action, and effective in result, should be taken at certain periods, and the issue will be marvellous both to the young and the middle aged. They prevent nervousness, hysterics, dropsy, and a host of similar serious disorders, by expelling all impurities from the system, therefore none should ever be without them.

Coughs, Colds, and Asthmas.

No medicine will cure colds so quickly as these Pills, when of long duration or settled on the chest, or even though it has assumed the first stage of asthma, they may be relied on as a certain and never failing cure, particularly if the Ointment be well rubbed into the chest and throat night and morning. If this catch the eye of any asthmatical person so bad as even not able to lie down in bed, let him well use these two preparations for only a week, and the result will be marvellous.

Blood to the Head—Diseases of the Heart.

More persons die suddenly from diseases of the heart than the unlearned suppose; in such complaints, the bowels should always be kept well open, as also where there is a tendency of blood to the head. These celebrated Pills purify the blood in an extraordinary manner, and should be taken in copious doses when such symptoms occur, taking care not to overload the stomach; by this means all danger is quickly averted.

Children's Complaints.

It is not generally known, but such is the fact, that children require medicine oftener than their parents. Three-fourths of the children die before they attain the age of eight years. Let mothers, then, be wise, and give to their children small doses of these invaluable Pills once or twice every week, in such quantity as may act gently upon the system twice in the twenty-four hours. For infants, a Pill may be crushed and given as a powder in a little water. The gross humors that are constantly floating about in the blood of children, the forerunners of so many complaints, will thus be expelled, and the lives of thousands saved and preserved to their parents.

Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:

Ague	Dropsy	Inflammation	Sore Throats
Asthma	Dysentery	Jaundice	Stone and Gravel
Bilious Complaints	Erysipelas	Liver Complaints	Secondary Symptoms
Blotches on the Skin	Female Irregularities	Lumbago	Tic-Douloureux
Bowel Complaints	Fevers of all kinds	Piles	Tumours
Colics	Fits	Rheumatism	Ulcers
Constipation of Bowels	Gout	Retention of Urine	Venereal Affections
Consumption	Head-ache	Scrofula, or King's Evil	Weakness, from whatever cause
Debility	Indigestion		
	Worms of all kinds		

☞ There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each Box. n14

☞ CURTIS & MOORE and LANGLEY BROS., Sole Agents for Vancouver Island. de4

JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.

Thirty years of experience has demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt, that JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT excels every other remedy for the cure of

ASTHMA,
BRONCHITIS,
CONSUMPTION,
COUGHS AND COLDS,
CROUP AND WHOOPING COUGH,
SPITTING OF BLOOD,
AND ALL PULMONARY COMPLAINTS.

While many other Remedies have been lauded and extolled, and achieved a temporary reputation, JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT has continually increased in popularity until now there is scarcely an inhabitable part of the globe where it is not used and highly appreciated. The following are a few of the many Certificates received:

Rev. VALENTINE GRAY, of the Methodist Church, writes from Centerville, Pa.:

Having experienced the beneficial effects of your Family Medicines, I would give it as my opinion that they are the very best I ever had occasion to use, and most cheerfully recommend them to the afflicted. Your EXPECTORANT especially I have found to be a sure cure for COUGHS and COLDS.

Dr. W. W. WHITER, of Milledgeville, Ill., writes:

It is with great pleasure that I can recommend your EXPECTORANT to those suffering from Bronchial Affections, having used it with the most satisfactory results.

Mr. NATHAN PENNYPACKER, of Upper Uwchland, Chester county, Pa., says:

Having been afflicted with ASTHMA and BRONCHITIS, and the treatment of several skillful physicians proving of no avail, I commenced the use of your EXPECTORANT. After taking it for about three months I found myself entirely cured.

Rev. JOHN DOWLING, D. D., Pastor of the Berean Baptist Church, N. Y., writes:

I have long known the virtues of your EXPECTORANT, and frequently tested them on myself and family, when afflicted with COUGHS or COLDS. I believe it to be one of the best remedies ever discovered for these maladies.

Mr. READING DOTY, of Twenty Mile Stand, Warren county, Ohio, says:

Recently I had an attack of ASTHMA, the most distressing of all diseases, and yesterday afternoon, after taking a short ride, I returned home almost unable to breathe. Through the persuasion of my wife I was led to try your EXPECTORANT. The first dose gave instant relief, and after the fourth dose I enjoyed a refreshing sleep, and the next morning arose in better health than for two years past.

Rev. J. J. WALSH, Missionary of the Presb. Board at Futtegurh, Northern India, says:

Your EXPECTORANT was the means under Providence of curing a case of INCIPIENT CONSUMPTION, which had been pronounced incurable by competent medical men.

MAURICE SCHWARS, of Concord, Wis., says:

When the WHOOPING COUGH prevailed to some extent at our place, the disease seemed to baffle our physicians. In various cases the EXPECTORANT was used, and it did not fail to cure.

JOHN NARRIMAN, Esq., of Stewartstown, N.H., writes:

Not long since, a child of mine had a very violent and distressing attack of CROUP, which must have proved fatal had not immediate relief been obtained. I commenced giving your EXPECTORANT, and within three-quarters of an hour the child had taken six teaspoonful, breathed with perfect ease, a cure within that time having been effected.

Rev. RUFUS BABCOCK, D. D., formerly President of Waterville College, Maine, writes:

For more than a dozen years I have recommended Dr. D. JAYNE'S FAMILY MEDICINES, and especially the EXPECTORANT. I know that these medicines are highly esteemed and frequently prescribed by some of the most respectable of the regular practitioners of medicine; and I do not hesitate to commend them as a valuable addition to our *materia medica*, and a safe as well as eminently beneficial remedy for the diseased.

DAVID TURNER, of Cassville, Huntington county, Penn., writes:

My son, aged nineteen years, was confined to his bed for for three months, his disease being pronounced by the attending physician to be CONSUMPTION. Failing to obtain any relief from the treatment he had been undergoing, I procured for him JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT, and through its use he has been entirely restored to health.

Mr. JOHN HENRY, of Burlington, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, says:

For two years, my son was afflicted with a disease resembling CONSUMPTION, and during this period was unable to labor. Being finally induced to try your EXPECTORANT, he was completely cured after taking ten bottles, and he is now able to work every day.

Mr. PRESTON EWING, Laconte, Harrison county, Indiana, writes:

Being afflicted with BRONCHITIS for the space of three years, to such an extent that I was obliged to relinquish the teaching of Vocal Music, and failing to obtain any relief from the physicians whom I consulted, I gave the EXPECTORANT a trial. After using it for a few weeks I was very much relieved; and by its continued use my throat is now entirely clear of any disease.

☞ This EXPECTORANT, and *all* of DR. D. JAYNE'S FAMILY MEDICINES, are sold by CURTIS & MOORE and LANGLEY BROS., Victoria, from whom may also be obtained *gratis, Jayne's Medical Almanac and Guide to Health.* fe14-1m

W. H. OLIVER,

Importer and Wholesale Dealer in

Fine English French and American

liquors,

CHAMPAGNES, CALIFORNIA WINES

CLARETS AND BRANDIES,

In the large and spacious Warehouse

Johnson street, opposite Wharf street

VICTORIA, V. I.

A large Stock of Bonded Wines and Brandies always on hand.

To Dealers purchasing in large quantities, a liberal discount will be made for cash.

Agency of 1st Premium California Wines, in packages and cases;
Agency of Old Sachem and Hostetter's Bitters;
Choice Claret Wines, in casks and cases, received direct from Bordeaux, via San Francisco, in bond;
Choice Old French Brandies, received direct from the Agents, in bond, via San Francisco;
Choice Old Bourbon Whiskies;
" " Port and Sherry Wines, in casks & cases;
High Proof Jamaica Rum;
" " Scotch Whisky;
" " Brandy and Whiskies;
" " Alcohol and Spirits, in bbls. and tins;
Champagne Wines, complete stock of all the favorite brands now in use;
And a general assortment of Case Liquors, Cordials Syrups, etc.

Traders and Dealers visiting Victoria will find it to their interest to call and examine my stock before purchasing. All orders from British Columbia and towns on the Sound will meet with prompt attention.

W. H. OLIVER.

ja19 6mw

A CARD

EVERY PERSON GOING TO THE CARIBOO MINES SHOULD READ.

From Fort Yale, the Depot of the Yale and Lytton Route to Quesnelle River, houses for the accommodation of the traveling public have been erected at the following named places:

		MILES
From Fort Yale to	Spuzamo	12
thence to	Boston Bar	13
	Forest House	20
	Lytton City	20
	Nicomin	10
	Cook & Kimball's Ferry	15
	McLean's	45
	Scottles'	8
	The Mound	6
	Upper crossing of Bonaparte	10
	Green Lake	12
	Bridge Creek	25
	Lake La Hache	20
	Deep Creek	12
	Williams' Lake	18
	Ten Mile Creek	10
	Round Tent	10
	Beaver Lake	20
	Little Lake	16
	Quesnelle City	7

At all the above places good accommodations for both man and beast can be found. The superiority of the Yale and Lytton route to Quesnelle River, in connection with the public houses along the road, is inducement sufficient to direct all travelers who consider time, safety and accommodations of any importance.

The Yale and Lytton Route is the

ONLY CHEAP AND SAFE ROUTE TO THE CARIBOO MINES.

fe21 3mw

COUGHS, ASTHMA, AND INCIPIENT Consumption are effectually cured by

Keating's Cough Lozenges.

For half a century this well-known remedy for Pulmonary Disorders has successfully stood the test of public approval and their usefulness has been extended to every clime and country of the civilized world. They may be found alike on the gold-fields of Australia, the back woods of America, in every important place in the East or West Indies, and the palace of Pekin. During this long period they have withstood the pretensions of numerous inferior rivals, and are now the acknowledged antidote for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, etc.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

MELBOURNE, PORT PHILIP.

DEAR SIR:—I duly received per Maitland the case of Lozenges, and have much pleasure in saying that they have met with a ready sale; therefore, send me now the value of ten pounds, that is, double the last sent, packed in two cases with Tins, etc., as before.

The Lozenges require only to be tried, and I am sure the sale will be immense. I am not an advocate for Proprietary Medicines in the general way, but assure you that the Lozenges have done so much good in almost every case in which we have recommended them, that I believe them better adapted to this climate than anything else we have seen used.

Believe me, dear sir, yours faithfully,

DANL. R. LONG.

Mr. Thomas Keating.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, Tins, and Bottles of various sizes, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist etc., 79 St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Sold Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the world.

To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each Box, without which none are genuine.

☞ Sold at Victoria, Vancouver Island, by Mr W. M. Searby, Pharmaceutical Chemist.

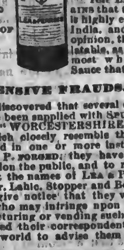
ja10 12t wy

LEA & PERRINS'

CELEBRATED

Worcestershire Sauce.

PRONOUNCED BY CONNOISSEURS TO BE THE Only Good Sauce, and applicable to EVERY VARIETY OF DISH.



EXTRACT of a LETTER from a MEDICAL GENTLEMAN at Madras, To his Brother at WORCESTER, May, 1851

"Tell LEA & PERRINS that their Sauce is highly esteemed in India, and is, in my opinion, the most palatable, as well as the most wholesome Sauce that is made."

EXTENSIVE FRAUDS.

L. & P. having discovered that several of the Foreign Markets have been supplied with SPURIOUS IMITATIONS of the "WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE," the labels of which closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances with the names of L. & P. FORGED, they have deemed it their duty to caution the public, and to request purchasers to see that the names of LEA & PERRINS are upon the Wrapper, Label, Stopper and Bottle.

L. & P. further give notice that they will proceed against any one who may infringe upon their right, either by manufacturing or vending such imitations, and have instructed their correspondents in the various parts of the world to advise them of such infringements.

Wholesale and for exportation by the Proprietors, LEA & PERRINS, Worcester, England; Crosse and Blackwell and other Oilmen and Merchants, London. n10 lawly

A. T. CLARK & CO.,

East India, Shipping, and General Forwarding Agents,

27 LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E. C.

And Dock Chambers, Southampton.

PASSENGERS' BAGGAGE, PARCELS, and Merchandize received and forwarded to all parts of the world.

Parties coming from India will save themselves time and trouble if they advise A. T. C. & Co. by the previous Mail, in which case, a clerk will meet them on board, and see to the landing of Baggage, and clearing it at the Custom House. ja14 lyw

CAUTION.

LETCHFORD'S WAX VESTAS.

R. LETCHFORD & CO. GUARANTEE their matches will light in any climate, even if dipped in water. Customers, therefore when ordering Wax Matches should be particular in requesting "Letchford's Make," as others are often substituted.

R. Letchford & Co. having just built an extensive Manufactory, are now prepared to execute at a few days' notice, any order made payable in England.

Three Colts Lane, Bethnal Green, (late of Whitechapel), London no12 26tw

THE BRITISH COLONIST, PRINTED and Published by Amor DeCosmos, Government street, near the Post Office, Victoria, V. I. Tuesday morning, March 11, 1862.

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST--Supplement.

VOL. 3. VICTORIA, V. I., TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1862. NO. 16.

Music.

When life's sad dream is o'er,
Its happiness and woe;
And nature, weak and wearied out,
Has done with all below—
Sit near my couch, and while my breath
Comes feebly up, oh! let me hear
Thy voice repeat the plaintive strain
My dying hour to cheer!

Sing while my fluttering pulse
Its labor faintly plies;
Sing while my spirit hovers near,
And while to God it flies;
Let the voice that soothed my morning hours
At cheerful sound at even;
And thy music waft my soul away
To sweeter strains in heaven.

Mails.

Last Spring Government put out an advertisement for tenders for the conveyance of the mails over sundry routes in British Columbia. Public expectation was on tiptoe, thinking that the thing would be done and a mail route established, more especially between New Westminster and Cariboo, and letter and newspaper postage put within the reach of everybody's pocket. But the call turned out to be an *ignus fatuus*—everbody was led astray by it—those who tendered among the number. The Gold Escort made a trip or two and carried a mail bag; and that was all the mail conveyance at the expense of the Government last year to Cariboo. The Express, however, kept up the communication till winter set in, and at a very expensive rate indeed. So expensive, indeed, that letters and newspapers at Antler Creek cost from $1 to $2 each—and perhaps they made very little money at that. This Spring we expect a large immigration to find its way to Cariboo; but not a syllable has been uttered about mail conveyance. Government is dumb on the subject. Possibly a miracle will have to be performed to endow it with the gift of talking about mail routes. As miracles are out of our line, we cannot attempt anything beyond making Government understand that a regular mail conveyance between Victoria *via* New Westminster to Cariboo is wanted by everybody the ensuing summer. Our mercantile interests demand it. Every town on Fraser River wants it. The miners want it. The packers want it. There is a universal desire for a weekly mail to end from Cariboo if possible, or a semi-monthly one rather than none at all.

We act on the principle that if there is anything useful that we want and can have it, we would be foolish to do without it. A weekly mail is what we want. It will cost sundry dollars, but there are dollars enough in the Treasury—the revenue is large enough to afford it. So the press and people of both Governments would act extremely foolish to allow any rest to "the powers that be" till they get a weekly mail. It is extremely probable that the returns may not meet the disbursements. Such a thing is a characteristic of Postoffice departments nearly everywhere. But, like some other non-paying departments of Government, the Postoffice—mail communication—is such a great convenience—tends to promote trade and the diffusion of intelligence to such a high degree that the indirect returns to the revenue counterbalance any loss that it would be prudent to entail on the finances of a country for such a purpose. We only ask for a weekly mail. Yet it is palpable enough to say one that if the British Columbian administration would stir itself properly there might be a daily mail start from the Forks of Quesnelle for Victoria, and *vice versa*, by the 1st of August. All that is required to do that, is a wagon road. Construct that and a daily stage line will follow in the twinkling of an eye. But whether the wagon road be constructed or not, we cannot do without a weekly mail to Cariboo as soon as the route is open. The ways and means have to be provided somehow. It will all come out of the miners; and as they want their letters and their newspapers without paying such prices as the Confederates are paying the news-carriers in Cottondom for defying blockades and pickets, it ought to be done. Last summer letters delivered in Cariboo were $2 each; newspapers were $1 50 to $2. Such a price may be tolerated for one year, if we take all the circumstances into consideration; but repeating it the second time, when Cariboo is a certainty—is our sheet anchor—where there will be ten miners this year to where there were two last year—is a something that we cannot comprehend. Perhaps, however, Government has got a surprise ready for the public on this subject as it has been sometime since the last surprise—secession—revealed itself. If a surprise of a new kind—a mail to Cariboo—be in store for us we want to know it, as it would very opportunely dispel the impression that we are to have no mail conveyance to Cariboo in the spring.

PATRIOTIC COUNCILLORS. — When the news of the determination of the English Government in the Mason and Slidel case reached Toronto, the City Council passed a series of loyal resolutions to do all in their power to encourage the volunteer movement, and concluded their proceedings by singing "God save the Queen."

Powder Magazine.

The Powder Magazine question has again forced itself upon public attention. We published one letter yesterday, and to-day "Salt Petre" has exploded. A short time ago we had the civilizing combustible beneath the back windows of our office, kept there possibly as a terror to us—as a threat that we would be suddenly blown up if we did not behave ourselves. By dint of dinging at the authorities our dangerous neighbor was removed to the venerable steamer Beaver. From there it is to be removed to Halkett Island up the Arm whenever somebody is enterprising enough to take the contract of building a magazine with ground rent free, and the privilege of collecting $2 50 per month on a ton. Our correspondents, however, don't appear to like the idea. The smell of brimstone at an unexpected moment is something that men have no greater liking for then we entertained when it was stored under our windows. Gas-houses are usually considered disagreeable neighbors enough in a growing quarter of a town; but when a powder magazine is thrown in to heighten the misery, people may naturally be excused if they kick up a rumpus about it. Powder has to be stored somewhere. The puzzle is where shall it be stored without endangering life, or limiting the expansion of the town in a very natural direction? We confess that we are not exactly prepared to fix the proper spot, except it be in Birdcage Walk. If stacked up there, it would be an ever present monitor to occupants in that quarter to keep their consciences clear as they might be called upon suddenly to give an account of their stewardship. We know no part of the town where people have been "blown up" so often without being seriously hurt as over there, so it is likely they can stand a bombardment. There is this about the matter—if the powder were stored there it might bring about a removal of the public offices to the town—to a convenient centre—on the Postoffice lot, for instance, instead of renting it. That would do some good; besides the magazine would not be in a much more dangerous position in the opinion of some than if it were put where it has been proposed. We have, however, very little hopes of the inhabitants of Birdcage Walk being courageous enough to store saltpetre near them. It would bring the prospects of a day of retribution too near. Perhaps a still better reason could be urged. They want to pull the town in that direction by book or crook, and powder up the arm is as good a means to give it a lift their way as anything else. In fact we consider that they have been eminently successful so far, and with the aid of powder will be still more so. But where to put the magazine if not across James' Bay we don't know. Yet it ought not to be put in a place that would impair seriously the value of property, or check the expansion of the town, or the erection of residences in any direction.

Powder Magazine.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST—*Sir*:—I see in your paper an advertisement calling for tenders for the erection of a powder magazine on Halkett Island. The Island is some short distance above the new bridge, where the Indian burial ground now is. Now the erection of a magazine in that neighborhood is, in my opinion, fraught with great danger to the town as well as inconvenience to the public. In the first place, all vessels instead of discharging their powder outside the harbor will come alongside the wharves for that purpose, a thing which in all commercial ports ought to be avoided, as an accident there would spread ruin and destruction through the whole wharf frontage of Victoria. In the next place, after the powder has been discharged it has to be lightered through the whole length of the town, at a considerable risk as well as expense. Why could not our sapient Colonial Surveyor have fixed on some more appropriate spot for the purpose? There are plenty of such places near the entrance of the harbor, close to the channel through which all vessels must pass. Not only would the expense be diminished to the consignees, but the danger to the town in case of an accident would be trifling in comparison to what it would be if an explosion took place at Halkett Island. I trust that some of our citizens will take this subject up in earnest, or they may find themselves taken up where they do not wish to go just yet.

Your obd't servant,
SALTPETRE.

Snow on the Northern Coast.

VICTORIA, March 5th, 1862.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—I have been informed by a very intelligent Indian who has just arrived from Fort Simpson, that all that section of country is covered with snow to the depth of several feet. He states that it will be impossible for either white men or Indians to work the ground for at least four or five weeks. I therefore would advise all those men who intend to visit the Bentinck Arm or the Bulkeen River not to leave for those places before the 20th of April.

J. NAGLE.

Roads in British Columbia.

The freezing up of Fraser River and the Harrison-Lillooet Lakes this winter brings under notice more prominently than ever the necessity of trunk roads from the seaboard to the interior. Two months has elapsed since communication has been virtually stopped between New Westminster and the upper country. A few persons have come down from Lillooet and from Lytton; a like number has gone up; but no supplies. For all practical purposes the communications are stopped. Even remittances, though on hand, cannot be forwarded from the interior. The risk of traveling on the ice is too great. Such an embargo on our trade is severely felt; and consequently it should be a primary object to obviate in future so serious a drawback. Unusually severe as the winter has been, it has not been half as severe as the generality of winters in Canada and the Northern States. Communications by land are not interrupted there in winter; which is owing to main trunk roads radiating from all the principal towns and seaports into the interior. The severity of our climate presents no such obstacles as it does there; but it presents an obstacle sufficiently formidable to interest all who live here as well as all who reside in the interior towns and districts of British Columbia, in the opening of trunk roads from the seaboard to the interior. Fraser River when not frozen up is the only channel by which one can reach Yale or Douglas. To reach those points with supplies when it is frozen up is then the first object to secure. In the very nature of things—whether coast routes be opened or not—there has to be a wagon road from New Westminster up the Fraser. No other means can overcome the difficulty—can facilitate travel or throw supplies into the Thompson River country during a severe winter like this. Whether such a road should be pushed through to Douglas as well as Hope and Yale is a question for the future to settle. But there is this about the matter, that the Yale route offers more advantages for a winter road than Douglas, taking the present winter as the standard. All the lakes on the Harrison-Lillooet route we are informed are frozen up. Consequently to reach Lillooet a road along their borders would have to be constructed. As the distance at any time is considerably greater that way than via Yale, it is a very natural conclusion that the Yale route would be the proper one over which to construct a trunk line from the mouth of Fraser River to the interior. It is self-evident that such a route must be opened. Uninterrupted communication with the seaboard and the interior is a matter that cannot be overlooked; and as there are physical impossibilities standing in the way of ever providing any other route to the central and southern portion of British Columbia, it is only a matter when it will be opened. Yet that time may be hastened or delayed by those in power, and to a greater or lesser extent by the condition of the revenue.

If Fraser River be the natural line for a winter wagon road to Central and Southern British Columbia, it is equally clear that Bentinck Arm and Bute Inlet will prove the shortest routes to the Northern mines. The distance from either of those points to Alexandria is scarcely double what it is from New Westminster to Yale or Douglas; consequently, if we keep in view a winter road—one over which stages and loaded teams can pass with passengers and supplies on the snow—the competition by the Fraser River route would be an impossibility, so far as supplying the Cariboo country is concerned. Likewise between Bute Inlet and Bentinck Arm, the advantage would be with the former, if we regard Victoria as the supplying point; and we have not a shadow of doubt but it will always prove such to British Columbia. The distance from Victoria to Bute Inlet, not being greater than half the distance from here to Bentinck Arm, gives the Bute Inlet route an advantage over its northern rival that it will be impossible to overcome. There is this to be said about these rival coast routes—the Bentinck Arm route has been explored by several parties and said to be perfectly practicable; all that it requires is engineers, laborers, and money to put it in order and make it available.

On the contrary, Bute Inlet has not yet been explored all the way through by competent parties starting from the coast or from the interior. Enough exploration, however, has been done from both ends of the route to leave little doubt as to the feasibility of constructing a practical road. And if we regard it from a Victoria point of view, it is unquestionably the interest of this place to promote its construction in preference to Bentinck Arm. The latter may draw supplies from abroad without touching here, though the tendency of credit connections will be to render it tributary to this place. Bute Inlet must, as a matter of course, be supplied from here. In view, then, of such winters as the present, with a large population in the interior of British Columbia, we regard the opening of roads—not pack trails—from the seaboard *via* Yale, Bute Inlet and Bentinck Arm, as a matter of public necessity. Trade with the interior cannot be allowed to come to a stand-still, nor travel stopped, by the freezing up of Fraser River. Such an embargo has to be met by enterprise, capital, and engineering skill; and if met by them it will be overcome, and interrupted communication be ever after unknown.

Two Days Later News.

Clarksville, Tenn., Taken.

Price Defeated in Arkansas.

GORDON, THE SLAVER, EXECUTED.

INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE.

By the arrival of schooner Wild Duck, Captain Preston, Tuesday afternoon, we are placed in possession of a copy of the Port Townsend *Northwest* of the 1st, which contains States' dates to the 21st ult., two days later than that received by the Gold Hunter. The news was brought to Port Townsend by the Clipper ship Electric Spark, which left San Francisco on the 22d.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, has passed the Treasury Note bill with Senate amendments.

General Shields, by a vote of 25 to 10 was to-day confirmed a Brigadier General.

It is rumored that Stephens has resigned the rebel Vice Presidency.

Gen. Bishop Polk advises emancipation as a last resort of the South.

The Government protests against the plan to put a Hapsburg on the throne of Mexico.

It is positively asserted that Fremont has vindicated himself from all charges.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 19th.

About 5000 infantry, and two or three batteries of artillery, with a large number of mules wagons, and an immense quantity of baggage, stores, etc., left to-day for the Cumberland river.

The latest reliable returns from Fort Donelson state the whole number of Federals killed to be 300; killed, wounded and missing, 700.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.

The gunboat Connecticut arrived to day from Key West. At Port Royal there were rumors that Savannah had certainly surrendered. Within a few days the Federals had taken possession of the Isle de Florin, in the Savannah River, and erected a battery, by which communication was cut off between Savannah and Fort Pulaski. Our troops had also captured a rebel steamer of Com. Tatnall's fleet.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.

The substance of Earl Russell's letter to the Lords of the Admiralty states that all ships of war or privateers, of either belligerent, are prohibited from making use of any port or roadstead in the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Ireland, the Channel Islands, or in any of her Majesty's colonies, foreign possessions, dependencies, or of any waters subject to the territorial jurisdiction of the British Crown, as a place of resort for any warlike purposes, or for the purpose of obtaining any facilities for warlike equipments. No ship of war or privateers of either belligerent shall be permitted to sail out of or leave any port, roadstead or waters subject to British jurisdiction, from which any vessel of either belligerent, whether the same be a ship of war, privateer, or merchant ship, shall have previously departed, until after the expiration of at least 24 hours from the departure of such last named vessel beyond the territorial jurisdiction of her Majesty.

This order was to go into effect on the 6th instant.

Last advices represent that there is little doubt but that France will follow the British example.

Col. Corcoran and 700 others are expected at Fortress Monroe.

A frightful revolution is progressing in Honduras. Gen. Guardiola has been assassinated at his own house.

Advices from St. Thomas to 2nd February state that a British commander had attempted to take a seaman from an American vessel, but was prevented by a Federal gun boat. The British Admiral subsequently arrived, reprimanded the commander and apologized.

Four rebel schooners had arrived at Havana from New Orleans on the 10th with cotton.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20

In the Senate, Wilkinson moved to expel Powell, of Ky. Referred.

The House took up the report in committee of the whole on the Senate's amendments to the Treasury Note Bill. The amendment making the interest payable in coin was agreed to. The amendment pledging the lands, duties, and proceeds of rebel property to the redemption of the interest and principal of the debt, was rejected. The bill goes back to the Senate again.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.

A despatch boat from the Burnside expedition has just arrived at Baltimore, with the official report of Gen. Burnside. The Federal loss at the battle of Roanoke was 50 killed and 222 wounded.

The President has approved the bill to prohibit the coolie trade by American citizens and American vessels.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb 10.

The steamer Eastern State brings the bodies of the officers killed at Roanoke Island.

No further advances have been made by Gen. Burnside, nor were any immediately expected.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.

Special despatches say that there are only 16 men out of one company of the 11th Illinois Regiment, [at Fort Donelson] who are not killed, wounded, or missing. There are but 340 effective men left in the regiment.

Rebel officers state that the exaggerations of our forces made by Maj. Post of the 8th Illinois Regiment, who was taken prisoner by the rebels, materially aided in preventing any further resistance on their part.

It is reported that Gov. Harris, of Tennessee, has convened the legislature of the State, to repeal all laws passed by the Confederate legislature inconsistent with the Federal Constitution.

White flags are flying at Nashville.

Gen. Pillow and Floyd committed many acts of Vandalism as they passed up the river.

It is believed that Columbus is evacuated.

Brigadier General Williams has been released from duty in the department of North Carolina, and ordered to report to Gen. Butler.

Gen. Halleck has telegraphed to General McClellan that Clarksville has been taken with supplies enough for the army for 20 days. The place is now occupied by Gen. Smith's division.

Gen. Price having been reinforced by McCullough's command, made a stand at Sugar Creek, Arkansas, on the 18th, but was defeated after a short engagement, and again fled. Many prisoners were taken and a quantity of arms which men threw away in the flight.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.

A rebel telegram from Augusta, says that Gen. Johnson telegraphed to Gen. Grant that he would surrender Nashville, provided private property would be respected. No answer was made.

Gordon, the slaver, was executed to-day.

Reinforcements have been sent to General Burnside, which will increase his force to 40,000.

Gen. Butler left Boston last night, *via* Fort Monroe, to assume the command at Ship Island.

The Disunited States of America.

The *Athenæum* of Saturday publishes a letter, occupying three of its pages, addressed from Richmond, Virginia, by Capt. Maury to Rear Admiral Fitzroy, purporting to give an impartial history of the secession. The language used is of the strongest possible character, and instinct with the very spirit of bitterness towards the North. The great offence of the North is, that it had threatened to overturn the institution of slavery.

"Though," he says, "not so mighty in numbers nor so rich in warlike supplies as the enemy, we are 8,000,000 of people thrice armed, in that our quarrel is just. Fighting for our homes, we are mighty in battle. In mere lust the enemy fights for power and conquest; we, for fireside, the graves of our fathers, dear life, and all that is precious to the heart and to civilization. Our cause is holy; theirs, hellish. We cannot, we will not be subjugated. In the week the clergy are, of their own free will, drilled and being drilled to arms; their churches are given up to the women, who, with needles and sewing machines, congregate there to make clothing for the soldiers. On Sundays, from the pulpit, the holiness of the war and the righteousness of our cause are preached to the people. In battles, you find clergymen among the foremost of the fight. We have on our side a bishop for a general, holy divines for colonels, majors, captains, and soldiers in the ranks. Never was a people more united and in earnest than the people of the Confederate States are at this moment."—*Weekly Times.*

THE ARMING OF MERCHANT SHIPS.—Her Majesty's Government have determined, it appears, to arm the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, and other mail contract packets, so as to render them fully capable of defence against the attacks of privateers, in the event of a war with America. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have sent, in consequence a requisition for a considerable amount of ordnance stores. This Company possess about fifty vessels, and most of them can carry an armament of six heavy guns, including two 40-pounder Armstrong guns, with rifles, revolvers, cutlasses, and boarding pikes for crews of about 150 men and officers of each ship. With armaments and crews to this extent, not taking into account the number of naval and military passengers usually carried, and who will doubtless be willing to give their assistance, these vessels would not only take good care of themselves, but if opportunity offered, would be ready to act upon the offensive. The same company are having their officers and men drilled both in gunnery and rifle practice.—*Daily News.*

A WILD BEAST FIGHT.—On the 21st Dec., after the exhibition had closed, a Bengal tiger in Edmond's menagerie, which is at present at Newcastle, broke through a wooden partition into an adjoining cage containing a panther, with which he engaged in a terrible combat. The tiger was strongly belaboured with a view to driving him back into his compartment and rescuing the panther from his clutches. These means, however, only exasperated the beast still further, and after a fearful fight of ten minutes' duration, he succeeded in seizing the exhausted panther by the throat, and held him with bull-dog tenacity until he was dead. The tiger, then, as if satisfied that his work was completed, walked quietly into his own compartment, and allowed a new partition board to be thrust between himself and the body of his vanquished antagonist.—*London Times.*

☞ An Irishman on being asked why he wore his stockings wrong side out replied; "Because there is a hole on the other side o'em."

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY, March 5.

ASSAULTING A POLICEMAN.—Yesterday morning, at two o'clock, officer Brew found a man named Pat. Loughlen loafing around a house at the corner of Government and Johnson streets, and after cautioning him to go home and receiving an impudent answer, took him into custody. Pat. came along quietly until he reached Langley Alley, when he gave the officer a scientific trip with his foot, which brought him sprawling to the ground, and then made off. He was followed, however, by several policemen, and, after an agreeable chase through the muddy streets, was again arrested and locked up. In the Police Court yesterday morning the following scene took place:

Judge.—Well, my man, what have you to say to the charge of assaulting the officer?

Pat.—Oh, your honor, I was the laste bit under the weather wid a drop o' whisky and I went along wid him till Langley Alley when I thripped him up just for a bit of a lark and exercise—of course, your honor, there's no denying that I was the laste bit under the influence of the cratur.

Officer Brew stated to the Court that he saw Pat. on the street loitering about a house before he took him into custody, and that three men overhauled and took from him a coat, which they said belonged to one of their number.

Pat.—Ah, but that was an ould frind of mine; besides, the coat was taken through a mishteke.

Officer Jones was called, who testified that he saw the prisoner at one o'clock prowling around the streets and asked him to render an account of himself, to which he replied that he never rendered accounts except to those who owed him, and when asked where he lived, made answer that he lived wherever his money kept him.

The Chief of Police said that the prisoner was up before the Court on the 8th of February last for breaking windows in Manetta's saloon.

Prisoner—Yes, but do ye mind that I didn't happen to do that same? It was another man, as I could have proved if the case had iver come to the worst.

Judge—Well, the evidence was not very clear in that case owing to the fact of Mr. Manette not understanding the English language very well.

Prisoner—Yis, sir, that's all right; but do ye know that I could have brought a witness to prove who did break thim windies—the exact man himself, in fact? He broke the windies like a man and the next day went and paid for thim like a man and had the resate in his pocket whin the court was goin' on. I might have called him to prove my innocence; but I don't do business in that way.

Judge—Well, the evidence of assault is clear enough in this case, at all events, and I fine you £5, in default of payment two months' imprisonment.

PUGET SOUND ITEMS.—By Capt. Preston we are placed in possession of a few Puget Sound items. Sullivan, one of the rescued seamen of the unfortunate Tolo, has been sent to the Marine Hospital at Port Townsend. It is feared that the poor man will lose both feet from the effects of frost....... The steam-tug Resolute left Port Townsend yesterday morning for San Juan Island to tow the wreck of the Tolo into a harbor.... The wreckers of the ship Coquimbo, ashore at Smith's Island, have a fair show of success crowning their efforts to get her afloat once more.......About three weeks ago a man known as "Alick" put in at Smith's Island with a small sloop, and leaving the boat at the beach, walked to the lighthouse. While there he observed that the sloop had floated off. Procuring a Whitehall boat he put out after her, and has never been seen since. The Whitehall boat was picked up about a week ago, near the Island, and the wreck of the sloop has also been seen. The man was doubtless drowned.......By the arrival of a canoe from San Juan last evening, we learn that the Tolo was towed into that harbor at 12 o'clock yesterday by the Resolute.

FROM THE WRECK OF THE "TOLO."—The sloop Random arrived yesterday morning from the wreck of the schooner Tolo, which is reported floating bottom up off the American station, San Juan Island. About fifteen wreckers are about in boats or on the wreck's bottom endeavoring to tow her into San Juan harbor. A Mr. Smith has been chosen wreck-master, and when Mr. Byrne, the mate, arrived there from this place, the wreckers refused to allow him to take command, and he accordingly returned to town in the Random. The Tolo's bottom is in as good condition as ever, and once righted only a small sum of money will be required to place the vessel in running order again.

POLICE COURT.—A drunk, a deserter, a street walker, and a disorderly character were before the magistrate yesterday. The first was fined 5s.; the second was sent back to his ship; the next was mulcted in the costs of arrest; and the last suffered to the amount of £5 for assaulting a policeman.

ON LAUREL POINT.—In attempting to leave the harbor yesterday morning the schooner Ida was carried by the wind and tide on the sunken rocks at Laurel Point where she remained until high tide, when she floated safely off.

FRASER RIVER.—On Friday this stream will have been frozen over exactly two months. The last vessel that left New Westminster was the schooner Explorer, on the 7th January, and the river closed on the day following.

ICE.—A thin skin of ice covered the water in the harbor yesterday morning, and the mercury must have gone very low during the night.

FOR STICKEEN.—Sixteen miners have engaged passage on the schooner Explorer for Stickeen River.

☞ A letter received here from Port Townsend states that the steamer Enterprise will lay up at Olympia for repairs.

☞ The bark Gold Hunter sailed yesterday for the Sound.

☞ The schooner Tolo, it is reported, was insured at San Francisco for $12,000.

THURSDAY, March 6.

THE LAST DEBTOR.—The arrest of the debtor on Tuesday last was through a judgment obtained in our Supreme Court under a California judgment sent up from below for collection. The judgment was procured here about ten months ago, and had the commencement of the suit been delayed for a couple of months, it never could have been entertained in a Vancouver Island Court at all, as the "Limitation of Foreign Actions' Act" effectually bars all such suits here. In fact it was the procurement of this very judgment which caused that Act to be introduced in our Legislature. After judgment had been obtained, the bankrupt made application for the benefit of the English Bankruptcy Law, and filed a petition before the Chief Justice; but owing to the introduction and passage by the House of Assembly of the local Bankruptcy Act, no further action was had pending the arrival of the 1st of March—the day on which the new law came into force. On the day on which the old Act went out and the new Act came in, the bankrupt was unable to find time to prepare a statement of his assets, which the law requires to be presented at the same time that the petition is filed; and so for three days afterwards, when on Tuesday a shrewd solicitor for the California creditor, finding that the petition had not been filed, caused his arrest. How long he will have to lie in prison, none but the Chief Justice or the lawyers can say; but in the meantime his family is deprived of his protection and support; his business is suffering for want of a proper person to attend to it; and his credit has sustained an almost irreparable blow. The whole proceeding seems a heartless one and the advantage taken unfair. We marvel that the Chief Justice, when applied to for the writ, did not refuse to allow it to issue until the intending bankrupt had first received due notice and had been given an opportunity to file his petition under the new Act. It may be said that he would have stretched his authority had he done so; but we ask every candid man to look at the case in all its bearings and then say, if he can, that our Supreme Judge has acted rightly.

A SERIOUS AFFAIR.—Last evening, at 6½ o'clock, a young man named Hanson Tilton entered Lovett's Bank Exchange Saloon in company with several friends and called for drinks. He was waited upon by the proprietor, who placed a number of glasses on the bar, when Tilton suddenly drew them together and broke three or four. Mr. Lovett remonstrated and told him that he never permitted such conduct in his house, whereupon Tilton stepped back from the bar, and drawing a derringer pistol, exclaimed, "You s— of a b—, I'll shoot you!" His friends seized him before he could carry the threat into execution, and an officer was sent for, by whom he was taken into custody. Tilton is quite respectably connected, and has been mining at Cariboo. He is usually very quiet and orderly, and his outrageous conduct on this occasion is attributed to an over-supply of the ardent.

AN INDIAN BURGLAR.—Look to your door fastenings. On Tuesday night, at 12 o'clock, officer Shepard captured a rascally redskin of the Hydah tribe with a dirty bag on his back, containing candles, soda-water, apples, sarsaparilla, and many other trifling articles, which, it was subsequently ascertained, he had stolen from the Fort street dance-house. An examination in the Police Court revealed the fact that the Siwash was one of a gang of burglars who have skeleton keys in their possession with which they unlock doors and plunder at their leisure. He was committed to the tender mercies of the chain-gang guard for the space of a moon. Householders should take the precaution to bolt as well as lock their doors before retiring to rest.

ALL OUT.—The stocks of flour at Hope and Yale are reported to have given entirely out, and the people are said to subsist on barley bread and China rice in lieu of the wheaten staff on which they had been accustomed to lean. There are several tons of flour stored at Chapman's Bar, twelve miles above Yale, but owing to the state of the trail, from snow and ice, we suppose that it has been found impossible to pack any down.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE.—The new sidewalk on Fort street, from Commercial Row to Government street, is a great public convenience as well as an improvement to the property in front of which it has been laid.

ARRIVAL OF THE "EMILY HARRIS."—The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Court, from Burrard's Inlet on Tuesday morning arrived at noon yesterday, with 15 passengers and a small amount of gold dust. Ballou's Express from New Westminster came down, but the news is nix. The river remains in the same condition as at date of previous report. Business dull. The snow is slowly disappearing.

HOME AGAIN.—The theatrical company returned yesterday from New Westminster, and, we learn, will open under the auspices of the "Veteran" at the Victoria Theatre in a day or two. They report full houses every night at the metropolis of British Columbia. We sincerely hope that they may meet with like luck here.

POLICE COURT.—Four cases were on the docket yesterday morning, viz: A sailor, a sapper and miner, and a civilian, for drunkenness; and an Indian burglar. The drunks were each lightly dealt with and discharged, and the Indian was sent to adorn the chain gang for a moon.

MR. SANDRIE'S BALL.—The ball for the benefit of Mr. Sandrie, on Tuesday evening, was a complete success. About fifty couples were present and the enjoyment was continued until the morning had well advanced.

☞ The steamer Eliza Anderson is not yet fairly on the ways at Scorgie & Bolton's shipyard.

THE AMERICAN DISRUPTION.—To trace the more subtle social causes of the American break-up would require a volume. The large questions of slavery and commercial tariffs only offered modes of expression and pretexts for combination to a community already depraved. Even without these social anomalies the American population would have been turbulent and irrational. This unmanageableness results mainly from the diverse origin of the great masses of the people. The native American is not the worst type of a citizen among the inhabitants of the Western Continent. He is generally sober in mind, frugal, industrious, and more averse than others to political agitation. The power of the party which is composed of such men has more than once been exerted in a conservative direction. The worst are of recent importation—Germans, and, let it be said with regret, to Irishmen. From among these, for some ten or fifteen years past, the demagogues have sprung by whom even political quarrel has been influenced, and the public mind kept in perpetual unrest. They may bear in actual numbers but a small proportion to the people at large (though they constitute, it must be recollected, a very considerable proportion of the residents in the principal cities where political feelings is most potent), but they are noisy, aggressive, and daring, so much so that ambitious men use them for the purpose of attaining power, and in using them lend to them a factitious importance. Thus do those classes, who may be described with much justice as intruders, find in the institutions of America a wide scope for their malign influence. Possessing the same public rights as those that understand American questions better, and have a more honest conscience in dealing with them, they turn the balance of political power in a mischievous direction, and are never without artful men to pander to their reckless follies. Several of these persons now spoken of as American statesmen have clambered to office on the shoulders of this worst section of the democracy, and in so far as they represent it they are a curse to their country. The Southern Conservatives discerned the tendency of this thing so far back fully as 12 years ago, and have since then gradually weaned away in their affections from the Union, which at one time was to them as magical a word and as strong a bond as to any dweller in the New England States.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

A FORTY SHOOTER.—The forty-shooter invented by Rev. Mr. Moore, of Iowa—a perfect Nimrod of a preacher—is described as a weapon which will kill with accuracy at a distance of three hundred yards. The editor of the St. Louis *Republican* inspected the weapon, and says its calibre is ninety-five balls to a pound, and it has a Maynard primer attached. The powder and balls are put into two tubes, which extend from the chamber about one foot up the barrel, parallel with each other, and both can be filled with ammunition in a few seconds. These serve the purpose of a cartridge box, and the rifle is charged from them by a partial revolution of the stock, which is quickly reversed, and the gun is ready for firing. The ball is rammed into the chamber by a sliding rammer, by the movement of returning the stock to its place. The contrivance is by no means complicated, and its perfect simplicity is a guarantee against its getting out of order. The manner of handling it may also be learned thoroughly in a few minutes. This rifle may very readily be adapted for army purposes, made of any calibre required, and would not prove more expensive than many of the firearms now in use. A capacity of twenty charges would be entirely sufficient for an army gun, and, in the hands of a regiment in action, would render it equal to at least *five* regiments armed with a common musket or rifle. Arrangements are being made, at St. Louis, to manufacture the weapon.

THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN NAVIES.—The whole force of the British navy numbers 431 steam vessels and 123 sailing vessels. This would make a total of 613 actual war vessels, without including the large number of transports and other ships that could, at short notice, be converted into men-of-war. The fleet would carry between 15,000 and 16,000 guns. The effective force of the American navy is 82 sailing ships, carrying 837 guns, and 164 steamships, carrying 1,055 guns. The Secretary of the Navy makes the whole effective force 264 vessels, 2557 guns, and 23,000 seamen; but he includes in his list receiving ships and ships of the line that have been on the stocks since 1818.

DISTRESS AT NEW ORLEANS.—The New Orleans *Delta* of November 25th says that 1,800 families were supplied at the free market on the preceding day—an increase of 100 families during a single week.

The Great Federal Victory.

[From the San Francisco Bulletin, February 17th.]

Fort Donelson is situated on the westerly bank of the Cumberland River, but a few miles south of the Kentucky line in Tennessee. It was constructed on the left bank of the river, doubtless to support Fort Henry which lies a dozen miles or so west of it on the Tennessee River. When the Union forces took Fort Henry, the enemy fled to Fort Donelson, and thither reinforcements hastened from Bowling Green and Nashville by railroad. There it was absolutely necessary that the progress of the Unionists be stopped. Nashville was in danger the day it was taken, and with Nashville taken, the rebel cause was lost in Tennessee. All foresaw then that there would, there must be a gallant defence at Donelson.

Our readers know already how promptly after Fort Henry fell our forces pushed on to Donelson. To-day we have the story of their success told us by telegraphic dispatches that left Chicago at 11 o'clock this forenoon. The story is the rehearsal of another glorious victory. The fight began on Thursday, and was continued throughout the day, with no decisive results.

At daybreak of Friday the firing from the gunboats was renewed, the enemy from the fort and from the water batteries briskly responding. At 4 P. M. the firing ceased, and by that time there were but six of the water battery guns of the rebels that were not silenced. It was a glorious day's work.

On Saturday, the black flag was plainly discernible on the fort. The rebels would give no quarter then, nor ask any—they would "die in the last ditch," but they would never surrender—that is what the black flag means, and hot work was the day's inevitable programme, for, resolute as were rebels, the fall of the fort was resolved on. The gunboats appear to have resumed their operations early, and at noon the land forces were at liberty to fall to. They stormed the fortifications on the enemy's right wing—the northwest side of the fort—and carried them. It must have been a terrible fight, for the bluff is high, the forests thick, and felled trees obstructed the approach of the assailants. The 17th and 18th Illinois regiments were sadly cut up, but apparently the courage of the dying escaped into and animated their surviving comrades. The gallant Iowa 7th, who were with Lyon when he fell at Springfield, fought bravely and suffered much loss. Saturday closed, and the work was not ended though beautifully advanced.

On Sunday (yesterday) morning the good work was completed, Generals Johnston and Buckner and 15,000 rebel soldiers were made prisoners, and the stars and stripes floated over the stronghold, to protect which Bowling Green had been evacuated.

As we have taken 15,000 prisoners, and the "gun thief Floyd," true to his instincts, stole away with 5000 men on Saturday night before the fight was over, the enemy had at least 20,000. A dispatch to Gen. McClellan from Gen. Halleck, says that, our investing force was 50,000, beside the fleet of gunboats under Commodore Foote. We had the advantage in numbers, they in position. We have no statistics of the losses. Ours naturally, we being the assailants, should be greater than theirs, though after the display of the black flag, which it is fair to presume Floyd stole and saved for future use, the greater their loss the greater their credit for the affair in the estimation of history. The importance to them of holding the position was vital, their defeat is the heaviest blow yet struck at the insurrection. If the repeated dispatches that reach us of the evacuation of Bowling Green are true, Kentucky is now cleared of the enemy, except at one point only, the bluff at Columbus, on the Mississippi, and the importance of that position to them, since their flank is turned, is greatly diminished. Now, let Nashville take care of itself. It is strong, no doubt, and reinforced by so many of Buckner's men since the evacuation of Bowling Green as did not go with him to Donelson; but Commodore Foote's fleet is on the Cumberland and reinforcements from Paducah were on the way to join it yesterday, while the same army that subdued Forts Henry and Donelson are at liberty to march on to Nashville which cannot be over 60 or 70 miles distant.

The three columns under Gen. Thomas, that were a while ago attempting the eastern passes of the Cumberland Mountains, with a view to meeting at Knoxville, seem, in consideration of the bad state of the passes, to have swayed to the westward, left Knoxville as of a secondary importance, and headed for Nashville. So long ago as January 10th, we had information that if Halleck's and Buell's forces could effect a junction at Nashville, they would proceed to New Orleans by the same general route that Gen. Jackson took when he rushed down upon Pensacola, Mobile and New Orleans, confronted and defeated the British expedition of 50 vessels in 1814. There is nothing now to prevent their early junction at Nashville. Bowling Green is gone, and the war is carried down to Central Tennessee. The day of the rebels' doom swiftly approaches; the lines of fire close in upon them, day by day, from two sides—the northwest and the east; McClellan holds Beauregard and Joseph Johnston, and the great body of the Southern army "in a vice" on the Potomac; McClellan's plan of the war is complete, thorough, and the one that of all others Jeff Davis fears will be most suddenly and swiftly fatal to his wretched Confederacy.

HONEST ABE AND THE CATTLE SHOW.—An effigy of the President of the United States was added to the famous Tussaud collection of wax figures in London. The *Era* pays it the following rather equivocal compliment: 'The likeness is excellent. Mr. Lincoln is of the extraordinary height of six feet four inches, his countenance clearly indicating great firmness of character. This figure must prove a source of considerable attraction to our country visitors to the metropolis *during the approaching cattle-show.*'

POWERFUL.—An electric spark of induction, produced by Rumkorf's great machine at Paris, has pierced through a plate of crown glass nearly two inches thick, and another one and a quarter inches thick. These plates were recently laid before the Academy of Sciences by Mr. Fey, who stated that one inch thick plates had never before been pierced by the spark of induction. The holes were fine, and of a somewhat spiral form. There was no trace of fusion, or of metallic deposit.

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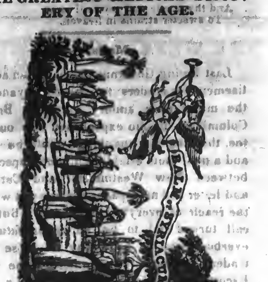

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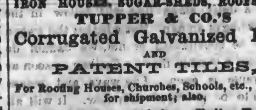

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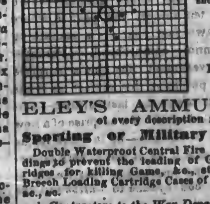

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